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30 January 1976

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

Situated at the heart of Britain's motorway network the National Exhibition Centre, which is due to be opened by the Queen on Monday, will attract both motorists and rail travellers to its excellent facilities near Birmingham. An article on the facilities at the NEC starts on page 289 of this issue.

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Home News

Future airport development in South Wales and South-West England

The Civil Aviation Authority published on Wednesday 28 January its advice to the Secretary of State for Trade on future airport development in South Wales and South-West England*. This follows a study of the area's needs which was carried out by members of the Authority's staff and published in August 1975.

In general the Authority finds that the present airport system in this area has been over-extended. Too many airports are competing in the provision of air transport services and, at the same time, the individual airlines are attempting to offer too wide a range of air services. This situation has arisen because airlines, airports and the CAA (as provider of air navigation services) have been providing their services below cost.

Airlines and the CAA are taking steps to eliminate these subsidies. Meanwhile the CAA recommends regional airport authorities to charge more realistically, although even this will not enable each of the airports in the area to operate profitably, especially where they are too close to each other.

The Authority makes the following recommendations affecting individual airports in the area: Southampton and Hurn: It is unlikely that there will be a useful civil air transport role for both these airports. On balance Southampton appears preferable as a domestic and short-haul international airport, and is also likely to have better prospects of profitable operation. Exeter airport should continue to serve local needs, particularly for leisure activities.

Glamorgan airport is likely to remain in substantial financial deficit. In purely aviation terms there is a strong case for designating Bristol airport to serve South Wales as well as its present catchment area, but this solution is rejected as unrealistic in view of the importance attached in South Wales to the contribution of Glamorgan airport to the local economy and the apparent willingness of the local authorities to support it financially.

Bristol: With the continuance of Glamorgan airport, there is not a convincing case for major expenditure at Bristol airport to extend the main runway, provide radar and rebuild the passenger terminal and aprons. On the other hand, such expenditure (up to £10 million at present prices) would be justified if the Government decided to divert traffic to Bristol from the London area – Bristol being the only airport in the area, apart from Hurn, to which traffic could be diverted without undue difficulty. The Authority concludes, therefore, that it is premature to offer firm advice until the Government has decided on the future role of Bristol in relation to London airports.

The smaller airports (Plymouth, Newquay, St. Mary's, Swansea, Haverfordwest and Staverton) should continue to develop freely in accordance with local needs for passenger and freight services.

* Airport Development in South Wales and South-West England (CAP 380), published by the Civil Aviation Authority, price £2.00. Copies from CAA, PO Box 41, Cheltenham, Glos, or by personal callers from CAA Central Library, Aviation House, 129 Kingsway, London WC2.

'Inflation is small firms' most urgent problem'

Speaking at the opening of a seminar on service for the small firm at Burnley on 27 January, Lord Melchett, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Industry, outlined the Government's policy towards small firms.

Lord Melchett stressed three points: 'First, this Government believes that small firms are vital to the communities which they serve and to the national well being. The sector plays a vital part in our country's economic prosperity and it is our intention that it should continue to do so.

'Second, as minister with special responsibility for small firms, the thing that I need, and indeed the thing that any government minister needs, is continuing, reasonable and responsible criticism and advice. I must frankly say to you that hysterical and, I suspect politically-motivated, threats do not help small firms at all and they certainly will not help me in putting forward the small firms' case.

'Third, I'm convinced that the single most important and urgent thing that the Government can do to help small businesses is to get inflation under control. Inflation has prevented us re-expanding the economy. It has affected everyone in the country, but, of course, none more tragically than the appallingly high numbers of people now unemployed. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has stated our firm intention of bringing the rate of inflation to below 10 per cent by the end of this year. Our whole economic strategy is designed to bring this about.'

New appointment to Industrial Development Advisory Board

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, has appointed Mr. C. A. Hogg, chairman of The International Paint Co. Ltd. and a director of Courtaulds Ltd., to the Industrial Development Advisory Board. The composition of the board is now as follows:

Chairman

Sir Robert Clark, chairman and chief executive, Hill Samuel and Co. Ltd.

Members

G. W. Barlow, chairman and chief executive, Ransome Hoffman Pollard Ltd.
K. R. Bond, deputy managing director, GEC Ltd.
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Brown, PC, former chairman, Glacier Metal Co. Ltd.
D. R. Chilvers, senior investigation partner, Coopers and Lybrand, Chartered Accountants.
G. H. Doughty, former general secretary (Technical and Supervisory Branch), AUEW.
C. A. Hogg, chairman, The International Paint Co. Ltd., director of Courtaulds Ltd.
J. D. Hughes, vice-principal, Ruskin College, Oxford.
R. E. B. Lloyd, chief executive, Williams and Glyn's Bank Ltd.
F. S. McWhirter, partner, Peat Marwick Mitchell and Co.
C. H. Urwin, assistant general secretary, TGWU.

Buckingham Palace reception for Queen's Awards winners

As an additional way of marking the achievement of winners of The Queen's Awards, the Queen has decided to give an annual reception at Buckingham Palace to which three representatives of each firm will be invited. The reception for the winners of the 1976 Awards will be given some time during the year, probably in the autumn.

The Queen wishes also to recognise those firms who have won The Queen's Award to Industry during the 10 years of its existence. Her Majesty will therefore give two evening receptions at Buckingham Palace, on Tuesday 10 February and Monday 8 March, to which one representative of each Award winner will be invited. The number of guests to these receptions has to be limited owing to the number of firms involved.

Her Majesty's decision personally to meet representatives of Award winners has been received with great enthusiasm by the firms concerned and by the British Overseas Trade Board.

Following the Report of the Review Committee last year under the chairmanship of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, The Queen's Award to Industry scheme has been renamed The Queen's Awards for Export and Technology with two distinct Awards, one for export achievement and the other for technological achievement. Companies could be eligible on both counts, as before, and if successful would receive two separate Awards. There will no longer be any combined Awards.

The Review has encouraged greater interest than ever in the scheme. A record number of applications, over 1,700, have been received for the 1976 Awards.

'Passengers will quickly recognise Concorde's immense advantages' says Peter Shore

Those who need to fly and fly fast will quickly recognise the immense advantages of the Concorde service, said Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, at London's Heathrow Airport on 21 January. Before stepping aboard British Airways' inaugural Concorde service to Bahrain, Mr. Shore said:

'In 90 minutes time we shall leave London Heathrow in Concorde on the first ever commercial flight to Bahrain: at the same moment, another Concorde will leave Paris for Rio.

'This is an historic occasion. Civil aviation is at the point of entry to the new supersonic age – a step still greater than that which marked the start of the jet age some 24 years ago.

'This is also an occasion for pride, particularly for all those who over these last 14 years have helped to design, and build, equip and develop this magnificent plane. In those years they have encountered enormous problems and they have surmounted them all. Pride in their achievement is shared by the peoples of Britain and France who have invested money and faith in the success of this project.

'Now we shall begin to demonstrate the full practical value of the world's first supersonic passenger service. Those who need to fly and fly fast – and there are many – will quickly recognise the immense advantages of the Concorde service.

'This evening when we arrive in Bahrain and when the French Concorde arrives in Rio, the world will be only half the size that it is this morning. I am confident that this is just the beginning; that it will not be long before we shall see regular services across the Atlantic to both North and South America. When that happens then travellers will demand such a service on other routes round the globe.

'Concorde is already a technological triumph. It is now up to our two great airlines, British Airways and Air France, with the support of us all, to win an equal commercial success.

'One last word: wherever Concorde goes it will take with it a visible proof and evidence of the continuing vigour, skill and enterprise of our people.

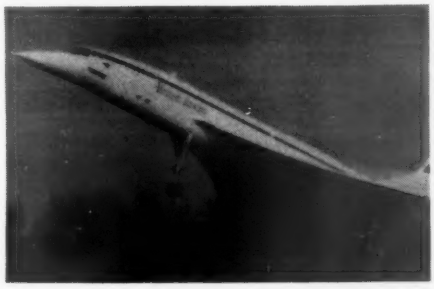
'May it indeed carry that message with it to the four corners of the Earth.'

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, gave a reception at Lancaster House on 22 January to mark the inaugural flight by Concorde to Bahrain the previous day. He is seen here (second from left), with (from left to right) Yusuf Shirawi, Minister of Development and Engineering, Bahrain, Sayyid Mahmoud Al Alawi, Minister of Finance, Bahrain, and Ahmed Kanoo, a leading merchant and general sales agent for British Airways in Bahrain, who all flew back to London in Concorde with Mr. Shore.

Concorde and the new technology

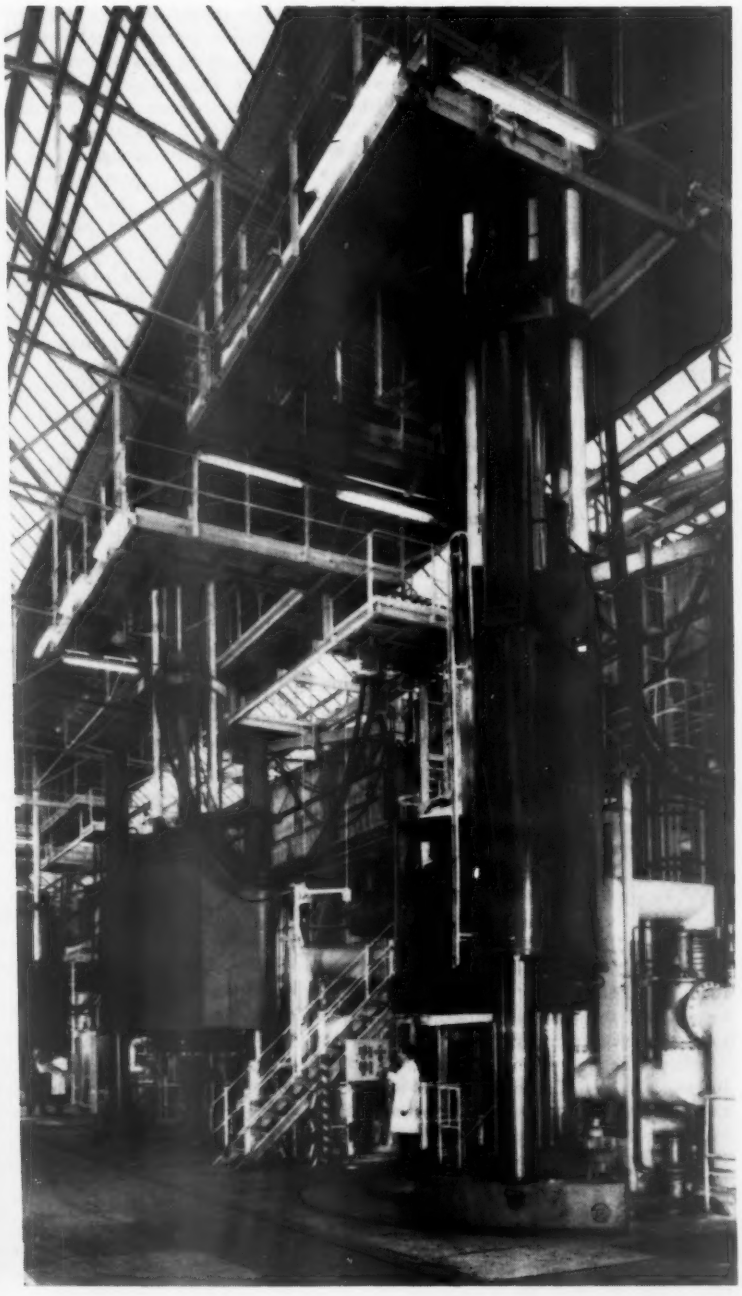
Left : Wellcome drugs, urgently needed in the Middle East, were among the first supersonic freight carried by Concorde on its inaugural flight. Robin Andrews (right), Wellcome Foundation's freight transport manager is seen handing a package of Septrin, used for the treatment of bronchitis, typhoid and other bacterial infections, to driver Eddie Radcliffe.
Right : Special air pressure control for Concorde undergoing final assembly at the Redditch plant of Hymatic Engineering. Hymatic designed and produced this special unit for the fuel accumulator together with a fuel recirculation control valve and fuel manifold. Four sets are fitted to every Concorde – one to each engine fuel system.
Bottom : BAA has installed this new Concorde check in area to ensure that passengers get on their flight even if they arrive only 15 minutes before departure time. The terminal contains 12 Concorde desks only four minutes walk away from the aircraft.

Concorde's first fare-paying flight to Bahrain on 21 January was a particularly proud occasion for many firms who over the past 14 years had helped to equip and develop the aircraft. A few examples of the technology associated with Concorde are shown here.



Below left : An engineer at BAC's Filton factory carrying out torque tests on Concorde's braking system. The aircraft's 'carbon brake' consists of five rotor discs and six stator discs. The brake has a predicted 'life' of 3,000 landings.

Below right : Liquid-metal-cooled titanium melting furnaces at the IMI New Metals Division plant at Witton. IMI titanium alloys are extensively used for structural components in the nacelle region of the Concorde airframe because of their high strength and their resistance to high temperatures.



Trade Secretary dismisses appeals against CAA licensing decisions

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, has dismissed appeals by British Island Airways and British Airways Helicopters Ltd. against Civil Aviation Authority licensing decisions.

British Island Airways has appealed against the decision not to increase the fares on Brymon Aviation's Plymouth-Channel Islands service in line with an increase granted to BIA for their Exeter-Channel Islands service.

British Airways Helicopters Ltd. (BAH) had appealed against the decision to licence McAlpine Helicopters Ltd. to operate sole-use charters in support of the off-shore oil and gas industry.

Revised collision regulations not yet in force

The revised International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea*, which were updated at the 1972 International Conference, will not come into force for at least 12 months.

The terms of Article IV of the 1972 Convention, which state when the regulations enter into force, appear to have been misinterpreted in some quarters.

Article IV requires that the 1972 collision regulations will not enter into force until 12 months after the date on which at least 15 States have become parties to the Convention. The aggregate of merchant fleets must constitute not less than 65 per cent by number, or by tonnage, of the world fleet of vessels of 100 gross tons and over, whichever is achieved first. This 65 per cent requirement has yet to be met – 18 countries have so far signed or otherwise ratified the Convention, but the total tonnage amounts to only 60.8 per cent of the world fleet. Mariners should note, therefore, that it will be at least a further 12 months before the new regulations can take effect.

When the requirements are met, it is intended in the United Kingdom to revoke the Collision Regulations (Ships and Sea Planes on the Water) and Signals of Distress (Ships) Order 1965 and make a new Order in Council.

* The revised collision regulations were published in the UK as a white paper 'The Final Act of the International Conference on Revision of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea', Cmnd. 5471, HMSO 1973 price 50p.

Shirley Williams announces 5 per cent Selective Price Restraint Scheme

A Government plan to limit price increases on some products during a six months period was outlined in Parliament on 27 January by Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. Mrs. Williams said that the Selective Price Restraint Scheme, which has the full support of the TUC and consumer organisations, 'represents a useful step in our progress towards overcoming inflation'.

Mrs. Williams said: '... the country is making good progress in the attack on inflation. The £6 pay limit is holding well and, despite a number of particularly unfavourable factors which have pushed the Wholesale Price Index for industrial inputs up in recent months, there are now encouraging signs of real slowing down both in this index and in the RPI as confirmed by the Price Commission in their report for 1 September to 30 November 1975 (*see page 283 of this issue*).

'Against this background I have had discussions with representatives of manufacturers, retailers and others about the introduction of the Scheme, as promised in paragraph 33 of the White Paper "The Attack on Inflation". Our objective has been to draw up a list of products on which prices have been held to a maximum of 5 per cent both by manufacturers and by retailers for a six-month period starting 1 February and 16 February respectively; in short to bring forward in the first part of the year, over a considerable area of consumer expenditure, the benefits of the lower rate of inflation which we now expect.

'During these discussions I have recognised that the profit margins of manufacturers' services and the distributive trades for the third quarter of 1975 were at very low levels and, in certain cases, at their lowest recorded levels, putting at risk both future employment and investment, and that not all the pre-conditions set in advance for the Scheme to come into operation have therefore been met. Nevertheless, representative trade associations of manufacturers and retailers have, in the national interest, agreed to recommend their members to participate in the Scheme over a considerable area, amounting to something in the range of 15 per cent to 20 per cent of consumer expenditure. In practice, as the rate of inflation continues to slow down, there are likely to be many other items in respect of which price increases during the six months concerned will not exceed 5 per cent. The significant point about the Scheme is that the manufacturers and distributors are prepared to give positive undertakings that this will be the case, because the observance of the pay limit has made it possible for manufacturers to make clear estimates of forward costs. Obviously there are safeguards allowing a firm to withdraw from the Scheme if, for instance, there should be unforeseen increases in raw materials, fuel or taxation.

'The undertakings given by UK manufacturers clearly relate to British made goods only. The Scheme will cover some items which are not imported in significant quantities. In cases where imports do form a substantial part of the market the importers have indicated that, while they cannot give definite undertakings about price movements because of currency and duty fluctuations and other factors beyond their control, they do not expect their selling prices to move significantly out of line with those of home-produced items on the list.

'The list of goods within the Scheme in some cases covers whole categories of consumer spending; in other cases, particular lines or types of goods.

'Separately, food retailers dealing in fresh foods which cannot be brought into the Scheme owing to seasonal uncertainties have agreed to recommend their members to keep margins down on one item each of the following: meat, one other protein, fruit and vegetables, during the Scheme.'

Mrs. Williams said that the lists of goods would be published separately before the Scheme begins.

Amendments to the Price Code

Two groups of technical amendments to the Price Code will come into operation on 1 February as a result of an order* laid before Parliament by Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, on 22 January. The effect of the changes is:

to ensure that investment relief continues to be available to companies under the Price Code between March and the end of July.

to facilitate recovery of revenue which may be forgone in some cases by companies restraining price increases on items included in the Selective Price Restraint Scheme.

Orders† making consequential amendments to the pre-notification, reporting and record-keeping requirements will come into operation simultaneously with the changes to the Price Code. They require suitable supporting information to be supplied to the Price Commission (or, for smaller firms, made available in records) where companies base price increases on the new Code provisions.

All three orders were expected to be published on 28 January 1976.

* The Counter-Inflation (Price Code) (Amendment) Order 1976 – SI 1976/71 (requires Affirmative Resolution of both Houses).

† The Counter-Inflation (Notification of Increases in Prices and Charges) (Amendment) Order 1976 – SI 1976/73 (is subject to annulment by either House).

The Counter-Inflation (Prices and Charges) (Information) (Amendment) Order 1976 – SI 1976/72 (does not have to be laid before Parliament).

Price Commission's report for September to November 1975

'. . . The situation offers more hope than it has for a long time.' This is the conclusion expressed by the Price Commission in its report* for the period 1 September to 30 November 1975, published on 22 January.

'There is now ample evidence,' says the Commission, 'that the rate of inflation is slowing down'. The key to continued improvement lies in close observance of the £6 pay limit, the report stresses. To date, no pay settlement coming to the Commission's attention has breached the pay limit.

The biggest single contribution to price increases in the period was the increase in the price of oil. Nearly half of the total increase in the price of oil was due to the depreciation in the value of sterling.

The fall in the value of sterling presents a major problem as it increases the cost of imports and thus ultimately increases final prices still further. The only way of stabilising the value of sterling and removing this upward pressure on prices is to reduce the domestic rate of inflation. The evidence presented by the Commission that the rate of inflation is slowing down is therefore of great importance.

Costs and prices (Section 2; paras. 2.1-2.5): During the three months covered by the report:

the retail price index increased by 3.5 per cent bringing the increase for the 12 months to November 1975 to 25.2 per cent;

the wholesale price index rose by 2.7 per cent bringing the 12 month increase to 20.6 per cent;

the Commission's own index, based upon price notifications received, rose by 4.2 per cent bringing the 12 month increase up to 20.4 per cent.

The rise of 4.2 per cent in the Commission's index in the three months covered by the report compares with a rise of 4.7 per cent in the previous three months. This is despite the big oil price increases during the period reflecting both the October OPEC settlement and other cost increases which have taken place in the 12 months since the last round of oil price increases.

The report comments that these price increases have prevented the rate of inflation falling as much as it otherwise would have done. But it is a matter of some relief that they have not reversed the falling trend.

Inflation slowing down (para. 2.4): Considered on the basis of a comparison over the preceding six months, the three price indices – the retail price index, the wholesale price index and the Commission's own index – provide the clearest evidence that inflation is slowing down. Thus, the report shows that the peak of inflation was reached in the summer – and has been falling since.

On the basis of a six month comparison, set out in detail in the report, the Commission's own index, which is based on price notifications received, peaked first in March, followed by the wholesale price index in May and the retail price index, finally, in June.

On this six month comparison, the fall from the peak in all three cases has been substantial. The six month increase in the Commission's index has come down from a peak of 13.1 per cent to 9.3 per cent in November: the wholesale price index from a peak of 13.7 per cent to 6.1 per cent in November: and the retail price index from a peak of 17.3 per cent to 7.2 per cent. (This last figure represents an annual rate of 14.9 per cent. The six month figure to December shows a further improvement to an annual rate of 13.6 per cent.)

The report states: 'The key to continued improvement must lie in close observance of the £6 pay limit. This will ensure a progressive improvement in labour costs and a progressive fall in the rate of inflation.'

The pay limit (para. 2.5): 'The new pay limit has been universally observed,' says the report. 'The increasing proportion of cases where pay settlements come under the new policy indicates that the effect on prices of the very large pay settlements in the spring and summer is rapidly diminishing and prices will now increasingly reflect the benefit of lower pay settlements.'

The oil price increases (para. 2.6): The total price increases notified by the oil companies in October and November amounted to £1,055 million. As a result of the Commission's intervention the figure was reduced by £69 million to £987 million.

The resulting price increases to customers, which were made in December, were equal overall to 5.1p a gallon. This 5.1p is made up of:

Increase in dollar price of oil landed in UK, including freight	1.6p
Effect of depreciation in value of sterling	2.1p
Internal UK costs	0.9p
Retrospective recovery of past cost increases	0.5p
	5.1p

The report makes the point that in all nearly one-half of the total price increase is due to the fall in the value of sterling. (This takes into account the dollar content of the retrospective recovery element.)

The Commission estimates that the oil price increases will ultimately add something like 1 per cent to the retail price index.

The value of sterling (paras. 2.7-2.10): In expressing the view that there will be a progressive fall in the rate of inflation, the report says: 'The biggest danger is posed by the rise in external prices due in part at any rate to the depreciation of sterling . . .'

The report then goes on to discuss the way the country's inflation leads to a fall in the value of sterling with a consequential increase in the cost of imports thus producing a further increase in the rate of inflation. The point is illustrated in detail by reference to the experience of the last 12 months. The report concludes by saying:

'The only way this chain of events can be broken and the resulting upward pressure on prices removed is if the depreciation in the value of sterling comes to an end; and that depends upon reducing our rate of inflation to or below that of other industrial countries.'

Profits (para. 2.11): After the modest recovery in the second quarter of 1975, profit margins in the third quarter slipped below 50 per cent of reference levels. In the large (Category I) companies in manufacturing and service industries profit margins in the third quarter were 46.2 per cent of reference levels and experience for the smaller manufacturing companies in Category II is similar.

This fall in profit margins reflects the fall in industrial output during the third quarter. It also reflects the rise in labour and other costs which because of market and other factors could not entirely be recouped in increased prices and therefore squeezed profits even further. The £6 pay limit did not come in early enough to have a significant effect on costs in this third quarter.

The net profit margins of the big retail and wholesale companies in Category II fell in much the same way – from 58.3 per cent of reference of levels in the second quarter to 45.7 per cent in the third quarter.

The report stresses that the figures need to be interpreted with care:

the figures relate to *percentage* profit margins. If turnover goes up, total cash profit can increase even if the percentage margin falls;

the reference levels with which the current profits are compared were fixed at a level higher than actual profits when the price control began: the fall therefore is not as big as it seems;

the figures relate only to profits within the control; exports and overseas activities are not within the control and there may be big increases in profits here even though home profits may be falling.

The report also makes the point that experience varies very much from one company to another. Some companies are making profits very close to their reference levels; others are making profits well below their reference levels.

This diversity of experience is reflected also in the different sectors of industry. Thus, in the third quarter, the profits of the food and drink sector in Category I were 68.5 per cent of reference levels (compared with the average for all sectors of 46.2 per cent): while at the other extreme the profits of 'engineering, vehicles and metals' were only 37.1 per cent of reference levels, and 'other manufacturing' – which includes chemicals, textiles, paper and printing – 36.9 per cent.

Administering the Price Code (Section 3): There had been a marked fall in the number of Category I notifications in the

* Price Commission Report for the period 1 September to 30 November 1975 (HC 92 £1).

period to the end of November but the amount of price increases in this sector showed a much smaller fall because of the oil price increases which are few in number but large in amount. Category II notifications had also fallen in number, while in amount they were the smallest recorded since November 1973 when these companies were first required to prenotify.

The amount of price increase resulting for Category I companies average £623 million a month compared with £617 million a month in the previous period. About half the total is attributable to the oil price increase. For Category II companies where the figures are not affected by the oil price increases there was a considerable fall in the price increase resulting compared with the previous period.

Over the quarter:

the Commission modified, rejected or secured the withdrawal of 261 notifications of price increases from Category I and II companies which reduced price increases by £121 million a year;

about £8.4 million was secured in the form of price reductions or the absorbing of costs by large enterprises which had exceeded their reference levels;

the Commission's regional staff secured 467 general price reductions from smaller firms which had exceeded their reference levels. This represented a saving to the consumer of £8.6 million;

in addition 233 individual price reductions were made following complaints from the public;

in the case of distributors, gross profit margins were on average 1.4 percentage points below reference levels saving the consumer about £375 million a year.

Reference to the Commission (Section 4): The report reviews the progress of the Commission's work under references made to it.

Under the fresh food reference the Commission keeps fresh food prices under continuous review. The report states that after showing little change between May and August, the Commission's index of fresh food prices rose by 5.2 per cent in the three months to mid-November and was 24.2 per cent above the level of a year ago. This was largely due to a seasonal rise in the price of tomatoes and home-killed meat.

The UK potato crop continued in very short supply. At the end of October stocks were only half the level compared with 1973 and 1974. As a consequence, retail prices were about 4p higher than a year ago at around 7½p a lb. By 11 December average retail prices had risen to 9p a lb. and the Commission found that retailers' gross margins had declined to 33 per cent compared with around 36 to 38 per cent earlier in the year.

Complaints and inquiries (Section 5): A total of 14,104 inquiries and complaints were received by the Commission during the three months compared with 13,600 for the period to 31 August and 17,680 for the period to 31 May. While the overall number has declined, the Commission found that inquiries tended to be of a more complex nature.

Many complaints were received on the high cost of chips as a result of the potato shortage. Other items which were the subject of numerous complaints included books, alcoholic drinks in public houses, local authority charges, telephone rentals or charges, TV rentals and coal prices.

Statistical analyses of the Commission's work are contained in appendices to the report.

Price Commission reports on the coal trade

Recommendations designed to help consumers and to lower prices where this can be justified are made to the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection in the Price Commission's report* on the coal trade, published on 27 January 1976.

These recommendations are:

Price monitoring. Prices of domestic coal and other solid fuels should continue to be monitored by the Commission over the next few months. This is because the effects of changes in prices since 1 October 1975 following the removal of the summer discount and a further increase of about 15 per cent in rail freight rates have yet to be fully assessed.

Consumer information. Fuller information about prices should be made available in each district, possibly through the Domestic Coal Consumer Council. This is because prices vary so much between one place and another and between one trader and another. It would help consumers, therefore, to know what prices are being charged in or around the area in which they live.

Lower prices. While in general profits are moderate, the trade should consider what might best be done to lessen differences in profit between one trader and another and to allow the consumer to benefit from lower prices where these can be justified. The Commission found wide variations in net profits between one trader and another, but at the top end of the range there may be room for some reduction to help bring prices down.

Allocation system. The needs of consumers and the effect on prices should be taken into account in any new system of allocation of coal supplies. The report says that the NCB's 'contracting system', as it existed when the investigation was made, effectively resulted in the allocation of quota supplies to retail traders and thus produced imperfections in the market. In particular, it tended to restrict merchants' ability to compete. (A revised scheme for smokeless fuels was introduced by the NCB from 1 December 1975.)

Competition. Arrangements whereby prices are effectively, if sometimes only informally, agreed should be discontinued. Evidence of such arrangements was found in some districts, where a relatively uniform price plus or minus a few pence a cwt – tends to prevail.

The report concludes that while there are clearly some advantages in a relatively uniform price in a locality, the ruling price does not necessarily represent the level at which prices would have settled down in conditions of freer competition.

* Prices and Margins in the Distribution of Coal and Solid Smokeless Fuels for Domestic Consumption. Price Commission Report No. 12 (HMSO, 65p).

Have you a good export picture?

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news. Send your export photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Extension of restrictive practices legislation to services

An Order* under the Fair Trading Act 1973 that will require registration with the Office of Fair Trading of restrictive agreements relating to the supply and acquisition of virtually the whole range of commercial services was made on 26 January by Alan Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

A draft of the Order was approved by resolutions of the House of Commons and House of Lords on 20 January and 22 January, respectively.

The Order will come into operation on 22 March and existing agreements covered by it will have to be registered by 21 June unless they are abandoned before that date.

Details of the extension of the legislation were published in the 12 December issue of *Trade and Industry*.

* 'The Restrictive Trade Practices (Services) Order 1976', Statutory Instrument No. 1976/98 was made on 26 January and will be published on 3 February.

Amendment of the Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations

Draft regulations which set out some proposed amendments to the Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations 1975 have been circulated to interested bodies for comment.

The proposed amendments, if made, will:

1 exempt electric lamp bulbs and tubular fluorescent lamps from Regulation 5 which, in effect, requires electrical equipment either to be double insulated or to have provision for earthing;
2 exempt all lampholders, whether sold separately or incorporated in lighting fittings, from Regulation 6(1), which requires parts intended to be electrified to be inaccessible without the use of tools;
3 require all lampholders (including the Edison screw type) and 'pear' switches to be so designed that parts intended to be electrified (other than those intended to make electrical contact with a lamp) are not accessible when the lamp holder or switch is properly assembled;
4 require all lampholders and 'pear' switches to be so designed that in the course of normal use they do not come apart inadvertently (whether by becoming unscrewed or otherwise);
5 require lampholders to be of the kind which ensure that there is no risk of electric shock either during or after insertion of a lamp (this will mean that only the 'protected' type of Edison screw lampholder will be acceptable);
6 require electrical equipment intended to be used with a flexible cord or cable to be fitted with a cord anchorage.

It is proposed that these new requirements shall come into operation on 1 April 1976 in respect of sales by manufacturers and importers and 1 October 1976 for sales by wholesalers and retailers.

These amendments to the Regulations have been recommended by the Advisory Committee on the Safety of Household Electrical Equipment. Their implementation will depend on the outcome of consultations with interested bodies.

The Committee has also considered the application to single-skin portable electric fires of Regulation 10 of the existing Regulations which requires parts of equipment which get sufficiently hot to cause personal injury if touched to be enclosed or sufficiently guarded 'if the nature of the appliance permits'. A majority of the Committee recommended that (i) Regulation 10 should not apply to single-skin fires for the present but they should not be permitted to have a surface temperature in excess of 230 °C; and (ii) the situation should be reviewed in two years, during which information about burns injuries caused by them should be sought in order to establish whether or not they present a hazard. Before coming to a decision on this recommendation, the Department intends to wait until all interested bodies have been consulted and their views considered. The bodies to whom the draft amending regulations have been circulated have accordingly been invited to submit their views on this matter.

These bodies include consumer and safety organisations, local authority associations and trade associations. Copies of the draft amending regulations will be supplied on request to any other bodies or persons who wish to know about or comment on the proposed amendments. Requests should be addressed to the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Room 133, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

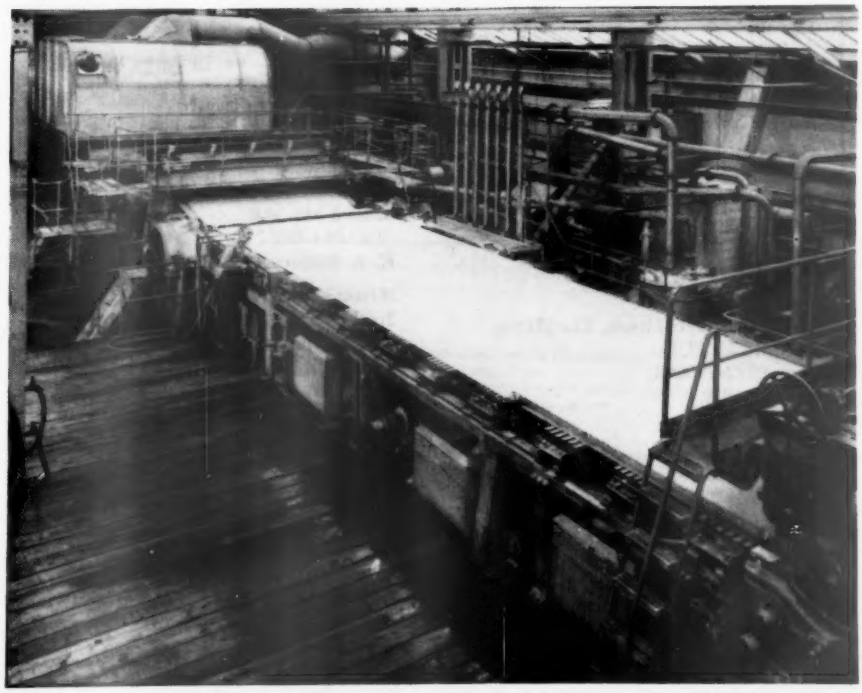
Notes

In most cases when a lamp is in a lampholder, part of the lamp cap is still exposed and can be touched. It is not live and does not present a hazard. But the insulation between the contact of the lamp and its metal cap, although adequate for its intended purpose, cannot be regarded as meeting the requirements relating to insulation specified in Regulation 5. This difficulty will be overcome by the proposed exemption of lamps from Regulation 5. The exemption will also remove the doubt as to whether the glass envelope is sufficient insulation from live parts for compliance with this Regulation.

As regard lampholders, the present position is that bayonet lampholders not incorporating a switch and not incorporated in lighting equipment are exempt from the requirements of Regulation 6(1). Bayonet lampholders (whether incorporating a switch or not) incorporated in lighting equipment and switched bayonet lampholders sold separately are exempt until 1 January 1978 (in the case of those sold by manufacturers and importers) and 1 January 1979 (for sales by wholesalers and retailers). The majority of lampholders on sale in this country can be unscrewed by hand without the use of tools, giving access to live parts. They do not, therefore, comply with Regulation 6(1). There is no evidence that lampholders of the present kind (of which several millions have been sold over a period of years) have caused electrocutions and representations have been made to the Department to the effect that there is no justification therefore for requiring the present design to be changed – with a resultant price increase to the consumer. The decision (subject to consultations) to exempt lampholders from Regulation 6(1) has been taken in the light of these representations. The proposed new requirement will deal with the main hazard likely to arise, ie that an unsatisfactory lampholder might accidentally come apart when a bulb is being removed or when a shade ring is being undone.

Pear switches are at present exempted from Regulation 6(1) by Regulation 6(2)(d). In the opinion of the Department, while this exemption should be retained, these switches should reasonably be expected to comply with a similar requirement to the one now proposed for lampholders, ie they should be so designed that they do not come apart inadvertently in normal use.

Tests have shown that the maximum temperature rise above ambient temperature on the backs of small portable reflector fires varies between 170 and 200 °C (ie, actual temperatures of up to 225 °C). Full skin thickness burns can be caused by 0.1 second contact with metal at about 150 °C.



The No. 2 paper machine at Henry Cooke Ltd., speciality paper manufacturers. A £1 million rebuild is in progress which, it is believed, will make it the fastest and most modern MG paper machine in Europe. The world's largest diameter MG drying cylinder has been ordered by Henry Cooke as part of the rebuild. The 6.1 m diameter cylinder beats the previous largest by 100mm and will be built at the Bolton foundry of Walmsleys (Bury) Ltd. for installation in July 1977.

Official Receivers' offices

Official Receivers are responsible for the administration of cases in bankruptcy and compulsory liquidation. Inquiries should be addressed to the nearest Official Receiver

High Court of Justice
Senior Official Receiver: J. B. Clemetson

Bankruptcy
Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2JY (Tel: 01-405 7641)
Official Receivers: D. A. Thorne; J. Tye

Companies Winding-up
Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD
(Tel: 01-583 8931)
Official Receivers: L. R. Bates; N. Saddler; D. A. Williams

Birmingham
Commercial Union House, Martineau Square, Birmingham B2 4UP
(Tel: 021-236 8831/7)
A. D. Gwyther; J. F. Hirst

Bournemouth
Burlington Arcade, Bournemouth BH1 2JS
(Tel: 0202-28208/9)
R. F. Savage

Bradford
West Riding House, Cheapside, Bradford BD1 4LJ
(Tel: 0274-33651/2)
V. Duffy

Brighton
Windsor House (East Entrance), 30-35 Edward Street, Brighton BN2 2JZ
(Tel: 0273-64301/4
J. F. O'Reilly

Bristol
Sun Alliance House, 4 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4BN
(Tel: 0272-290268)
D. S. Clackett

Cambridge
49 Bateman Street, Cambridge CB2 1LT
(Tel: 0223-53930 and 59646)
W. J. Llewellyn

Canterbury
Lombard House, 12-17 Upper Bridge Street, Canterbury CT1 2NQ
(Tel: 0227-62070 and 65037)
A. R. Haigh

Cardiff
3rd Floor, Hayes House, The Hayes, Cardiff CF1 2UG
(Tel: 0222-290268)
B. J. Longley

Chester
Dee Hills Park, Chester CH3 5AR
(Tel: 0244-21471/2)
J. Carney

Croydon
Park House, 22 Park Street, Croydon CR9 1TX
(Tel: 01-681 2633)
R. A. D. Copper

Exeter
Eastgate House, High Street, Exeter EX4 3JU
(Tel: 0392-55445)
A. J. Seldon

Gloucester
Grosvenor House, Station Road, Gloucester GL1 1ST
(Tel: 0452-21658/9)
H. W. Kirkwood

Hull
Beverley House, St. Stephen's Square, Hull HU1 3XF
(Tel: 0482-23720 and 23729)
J. E. Friend

Ipswich
St. Clare House, Greyfriars, Ipswich IP1 1LX
(Tel: 0473-56731)
T. A. Tuck

Leeds
Pearl Chambers, East Parade, Leeds LS1 5BX
(Tel: 0532-458011)
W. A. Bishop

Leicester
Prospect House, 94 Regent Road, Leicester LE1 7DE
(Tel: 0533-22251)
H. Roach

Liverpool
West Africa House, 25 Water Street, Liverpool L2 0RQ
(Tel: 051-236 9131/2)
K. Matthewson

Manchester
Townbury House, 11 Blackfriars Street, Salford M3 5AB
(Tel: 061-832 2471)
K. A. Miller; A. N. Percy

Newcastle upon Tyne
3rd Floor, 4 St. Nicholas Buildings, St. Nicholas Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1RF (Tel: 0632-21104/5)
F. Durkin

Northampton
6 Cheyne Walk, Northampton NN1 5QA
(Tel: 0604-37288/9)
W. J. Llewellyn

Norwich
Davey House, Castle Meadow, Norwich NOR O2D
(Tel: 0603-28983/4)
T. A. Tuck

Nottingham
1 Collin Street, Nottingham NG1 7EP
(Tel: 0602-51596/8)
W. W. Jordan

Plymouth
63 New George Street, Plymouth PL1 1RD
(Tel: 0752-68554)
A. J. Seldon

Reading
PO Box No. 40, Monarch House, 75-79 Caversham Road, Reading RG1 8AW
(Tel: 0734-581931/5)
R. G. Goddard

Rochester
Gordon House, Star Hill, Rochester
(Tel: 0634-42603 and 46906)
A. R. Haigh

St. Annes-on-sea
Petros House, St. Andrews Road North, Lytham St. Annes FY8 2JD
(Tel: 0253-721271)
M. Clark

Sheffield
8/12 Furnival Gate, The Moor, Sheffield S1 4QN
(Tel: 0742-26691/3)
T. Wilks

Southampton
21 London Road, Southampton SO9 1NQ
(Tel: 0703-23348/9 and 23340)
R. F. Savage

Southend
2nd Floor, Colman House, 61 Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea SS2 6EF (Tel: 0702-41316/7)
F. L. Sage

Stockton
4 Bridge Road, Stockton-on-Tees, Teesside TS18 3BP
(Tel: 0642-65598/9)
F. Durkin

Stoke
London House, Hide Street, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 1QN
(Tel: 0782-45256/8)
A. K. Sales

Swansea
5th Floor, Sun Alliance Building, 166/167 St. Helens' Road, Swansea SA1 5DL (Tel: 0792-42861)
P. W. Nunn

Watford
40 Clarendon Road, Watford WD1 1HJ
(Tel. 0923-44288)
F. L. Sage

GEC Traction Ltd. is to supply the first fleet of 50,000V 168 tonne 3,786kW (5,070 hp) thyristor controlled 50Hz ac locomotives for the new 864km (540 mile) long Sishen-Saldanha Railway, under construction in South Africa for the South African Iron and Steel Industrial Corporation (ISCOR). As a key requirement in their mammoth iron ore export scheme, these locomotives, designed throughout by GEC Traction, will be the first 50kV 50Hz locomotives in the world to be used for hauling long distance heavy mineral traffic and will form GEC Traction's third export order for high voltage thyristor locomotives.

Each train of 20,200 tonnes will consist of 202, four-axle ore wagons hauled by three locomotives working in multiple, giving an overall train length of 2.2km (approximately 1.4 miles). The power unit will produce over 11,000kW (15,000 hp) with a weight of 504 tonne.

Manufacture of the electric power equipment will be undertaken at the company's Manchester, Preston and Sheffield works, while the mechanical parts will be produced by Union Carriage and Wagon Co. (Pty.) Ltd., Nigel, Transvaal, where the equipment will be erected with the assistance of GEC Traction engineers who will be responsible for commissioning the locomotives. Picture shows impression of 20,200 tonne ore train hauled by three GEC 50kV 50Hz ac thyristor controlled locomotives totalling 11,358kW (15,210 hp) weighing 504 tonnes.

Home News continued

Clearance of merger proposals

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has decided, on the information at present before her, not to refer the following proposed mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

Dana Corporation/Brown Brothers Corporation Ltd.

and Barratt Developments Ltd./H. C. Janes Ltd.

English Tourist Board events lists

The English Tourist Board has published the first series of its events lists for 1976.

The lists which are updated three times a year, are published under eleven regional headings: Cumbria; Northumbria; North West; Yorkshire; Heart of England; English Shires; Thames and Chilterns; East Anglia; London; West Country and South East.

Members of the public can obtain any of these lists free by sending a large stamped/addressed envelope to: Events, English Tourist Board, 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DU. The title of the region/regions required should be written in the top left-hand corner.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the date(s) specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
14 January 1976		
1,244,752	Frank Berry	An improvement in or relating to window catches
1,251,492	Frank Berry	An insect screen
1,251,493	Frank Berry	Apparatus for forming sheet material, eg an insect screen into concertina pattern
1,332,635	Chinoin Gyogyszer es Vegyeszeti Termekek Gyara Rt	Rutin complexes
1,346,152	Chinoin Gyogyszer es Vegyeszeti Termekek Gyara Rt	Improvements in powder compositions
1,374,925	Chinoin Gyogyszer es Vegyeszeti Termekek Gyara Rt	Dihydroxyphenyl benzyl ketone derivatives
1,065,137	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Photographic camera
1,221,875	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Optically sensitised light-sensitive material
1,004,099	Middleton Welders Ltd.	Improvements in welding hollow components
1,261,599	International Standard Electric Corporation	Time-multiplex switching centre
1,308,414	Societa Italiana Resine SIRSpA, formerly known as Societa Italiana Resine SpA	Method for reactivating hydrogenation catalysts

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patent Form No. 44 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage
Comptroller

Addresses of ECGD offices

The Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) is a Government Department providing export credit insurance for United Kingdom exporters and insurance against political risks for new investments overseas. Although credit insurance is its main service to exporters the Department offers them a number of others. Firstly the Bank Guarantee scheme, enables exporters who are eligible to obtain export finance from their bank at a special low rate. Major projects carried out by British firms in overseas countries can be financed by the buyer credit technique which gives the exporter the bulk of his payment on shipment of the goods. Similar to this is the line of credit facility which extends the buyer credit principle to include contracts often with an individual value as low as £10,000. ECGD now insures 35 per cent of all UK exports. For full details of all ECGD services contact Publicity Branch, ECGD, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL, telephone 01-606 6699 extension 258, telex 883601, or get in touch with one of the offices listed below.

Central London

London, EC1 to EC4, WC1 and 2, W1 and SW1.

D. G. Hake, Waverley House, 7-12 Noel Street, London W1V 3PB. Tel. 01-437 2292, Telex 24105.

South London

London SE, SW2–20 and W2–14, Kent, Surrey (excluding the administrative district of Spelthorne), East and West Sussex, the eastern part of Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Isles.

G. J. A. Link, 320 Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey CR0 4XJ. Tel. 01-686 9921. Telex 946998.

North London

London N, NW, E, the southern parts of Essex, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, the Slough, Burnham and Datchet area of Berkshire and the Spelthorne district of Surrey.

C. W. Gentry, 593–599 High Road, Tottenham, N17 6SW. Tel. 01-808 4570. Telex 263615.

Belfast

The six counties of Northern Ireland.

R. H. Forsyth, River House, High Street, Belfast BT1 2BE. Tel. 0232 31743. Telex 74577.

Birmingham

Leicester, Nottinghamshire, Salop, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands, the southern part of Derbyshire and that part of Hereford and Worcester formerly known as Worcestershire.

F. Wilmot, Colmore Centre, 115 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 3SB. Tel. 021-233 1771. Telex 33132

Bristol

Dyfed, Powys, Gwent, West, Mid and South Glamorgan, Gloucester, Avon, Wiltshire, Oxon, Dorset, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall. That part of Hereford and Worcester formerly known as Herefordshire, Berkshire except the Slough, Burnham and Datchet areas and the western part of Hampshire.

R. A. Bounds, Robinson Building, 1 Redcliffe Street, Bristol BS1 6NP. Tel. 0272 299971. Telex 44248.

Cambridge

Bedfordshire, Cambridge, Norfolk, Northamptonshire and Suffolk, the northern parts of Essex, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, and the southern part of Lincolnshire including the City of Lincoln.

H. Watson, Three Crowns House, 72-80 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1NJ. Tel. 0223 68801. Telex 81624.

Glasgow

Scotland and the Outer Isles.

F. R. Burge, Fleming House, 134 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G3 6TL. Tel. 041-332 8707. Telex 77130.

Leeds

Durham, Tyne & Wear, Northumberland, Cleveland, North, West and South Yorkshire, Humberside and the northern part of Lincolnshire.

W. Ford, West Riding House, 67 Albion Street, Leeds LS1 5AA. Tel. 0532 450631. Telex 55125.

Manchester

Gwynedd, Clwyd, Cheshire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Cumbria, the northern part of Derbyshire and Isle of Man.

R. H. K. Hughes, Elisabeth House, St. Peter's Square, Manchester M2 4AJ. Tel. 061-228 3621. Telex 667756.

New York

In the United States of America exporters can obtain assistance from the Department's resident Representative for the USA and Canada.

J. K. Sedman c/o British Trade Development Office, 150 East 58th Street, New York 10022 USA. Tel. 212-593 2258. Telex 420543.

Britain

All roads lead to Birmingham

Details of the National Exhibition Centre, which the Queen will open next week; the facilities on the site and travel details, by John Bentley

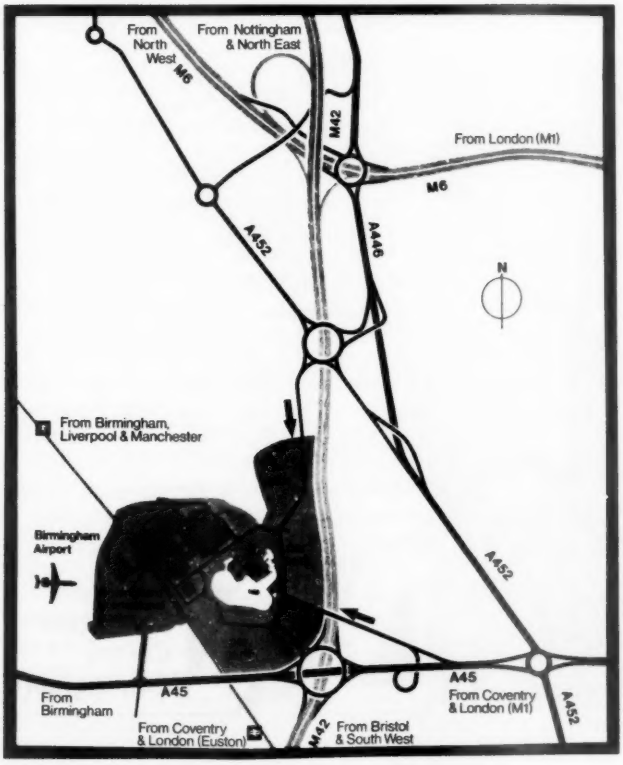
Controversy, which raged for a number of years over the choice of site for the National Exhibition Centre, is sure to fade into insignificance when the NEC complex at Birmingham comes into use following the opening by the Queen next week.

Traditionally, large trade and public exhibitions have been held in London, which has suffered since 1945 from the lack of a modern exhibition site but has the attraction of first-class shopping and entertainment facilities out of hours.

The NEC at Birmingham offers such a comprehensive range of facilities for exhibitors and visitors that the out-of-hours 'diversions' will become very much a secondary consideration. Firstly the site is at the hub of a series of motorways, adjacent to Elmdon airport and the Inter-City railway line between London and Birmingham. Secondly the complex of buildings – 1 million sq. ft of covered exhibition space set in 310 acres of open land – is suitable both for the smallest trade show and the largest public-entrance-type exhibition.

Travel facilities will suit everyone

Two hundred yards from the exhibition's central piazza is the station platform of the new Birmingham International railway station, the first major station to be built from scratch this century, at a cost of £5.9 million. Its five platforms will accommodate the mainline trains between London and Birmingham as well as special trains and the local stopping service between Rugby, Coventry and Birmingham. Journey time to London is 80 min, with a 20 min journey time to Birmingham and Coventry.



Weekday services from London will leave Euston at 07.40, 08.10 (Saturday excepted) 08.40 and then 10 and 40 min past each hour until 14.10, when an hourly service will start. Weekday services from Birmingham International to London will start at 07.28, 08.28, 09.28, 10.04, 10.28, then 28 min past each hour until 14.28, after which there will be London trains at half-hourly intervals until 19.28. Further trains will leave for London at 20.13, 20.59 and 22.01. A reduced frequency will operate on Sundays.

Passengers travelling to the NEC from South Wales, the south west, south coast, Manchester, Liverpool and the north west will be able to use the network of Inter-City services which converge on Birmingham New Street station from where there will be frequent trains to Birmingham International.

As far as road access is concerned Birmingham is at the conjunction of the three main motorways, the M1, M5 and M6, which meet just north of the city. Some 28 million people are said to live within 100 miles of the NEC – in some cases 100 motorway miles, which in turn means less than 100 min travelling time. Work has now started on the first section of the M42 motorway which runs alongside the eastern boundary of the site. The M42 route is planned as a further link between the M5 and M1.

When completed, the construction of the M40 motorway from Oxford to the M42 south of Birmingham will provide a second motorway route to the centre from London and the south east. Four special intersections are being built to provide the NEC with rapid access to its car parks from these motorways, and three major trunk roads – A45, A452 and A446. Road access is free from urban traffic congestion and the city centres of Birmingham and Coventry – both only eight miles away – are quickly accessible by purpose-built expressways.

Within the centre there will be visitor parking for 15,000 cars and 200 coaches in four landscaped parking areas. Reserved car spaces for exhibitors are provided close to the exhibition halls. An internal transport system will carry visitors from the general car parks to the main entrance of the exhibition hall complex, where they and others arriving by car, taxi or coach will enter under a large suspended roof designed as an attractive architectural feature.

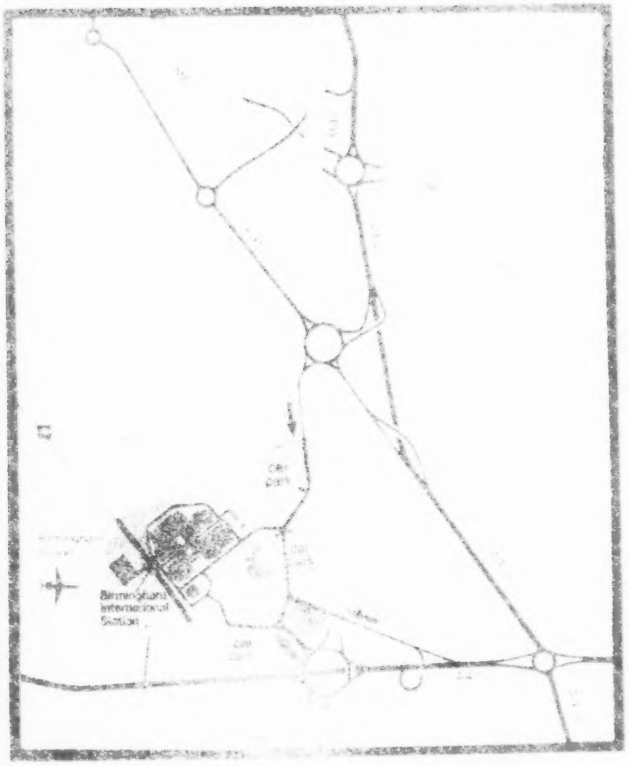
The NEC is also located alongside Birmingham's Elmdon Airport and originally it was planned to build an air terminal adjacent to the railway station, on the airport perimeter, so that air travellers would be able to walk directly through to the central piazza. Lack of money has precluded the airport

Britain

All roads lead to Birmingham

Details of the National Exhibition Centre, which the Queen will open next week; the facilities on offer and travel details by Hilary Bentley

Travel facilities will suit every



National Exhibition Centre completed!

Now BIRMINGHAM is Europe's new expo city.

For the last 4 years Birmingham has been preparing itself for a new international role. Building stylish night-clubs like The Night Out, seating 1,000 for a dinner and floor show, and Abigails, a 400 seat Cabaret Club. Opening the 'Birmingham Repertory' and completing the new Theatre Royal to augment existing, thriving theatre life. Establishing new speciality restaurants, bistros and unusual places to dine out. And hotel accommodation has increased to 14,000 hotel beds within 20 miles of the National Exhibition Centre.

At the Centre itself the Birmingham Metropole and the Warwick accommodate 1,200 guests. 6 spacious Conference Suites with the latest audio-visual and translation equipment stages conferences, banquets and gala dinners.

Crowning Birmingham's multi-million pound investment programme is a complete exhibition township. A 90,000 square metre exhibition hall complex with shops, restaurants, communication centre, banks, contractors' workshops and allied services. All in a parkland setting located alongside the new Birmingham International rail station (just 80 minutes from London's Euston Station); adjacent to Birmingham International Airport; and with access to four motorways within a mile of the Centre.

Birmingham is ready to welcome world buyers to the finest exhibition complex in Europe – completed on time and opening on 1st February 1976.

Top left new 5 platform rail station alongside the compact group of 7 exhibition halls.
Right foreground the Metropole Hotel and Conference Centre by Pendigo Lake.

1976 Exhibitions scheduled:

- ☐ International Spring Fair, Gifts and Hardware Exhibition. 1-5 February.
- ☐ FURNEX. Furniture Production Exhibition. 15-19 March.
- ☐ HEVAC 76. International Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Exhibition. 5-9 April.
- ☐ Leather and Associated Trades Show. 27-29 April.
- ☐ IEA-Electrex 76. International Electrical, Electronic and Instrument Exhibition. 3-7 May.
- ☐ IPHEX. International Pneumatics and Hydraulics Exhibition. 3-7 May.
- ☐ International Industrial Safety Trade Exhibition. 17-21 May.
- ☐ Surface Treatment and Finishing Show. 18-21 May.
- ☐ HEDA. International Home Electronics & Domestic Appliances Exhibition. 23-27 May.
- ☐ Sound & Vision 76. T.V., Audio and Hi-Fi Public Show 28-31 May.
- ☐ Licensed Victuallers Trade and Catering Exhibition. 7-10 June.
- ☐ International Laundry, Cleaning Equipment and Services Exhibition. 17-24 June.
- ☐ 11th International Symposium and Exhibition on Chromatography. 5-8 July.
- ☐ MAB. International Fashion Fair. 5-8 September.
- ☐ MACH 76. International Exhibition of Machine Tools, Gauges and Tooling. 22 September-2 October.
- ☐ PEMEC 76 International Plant Engineering and Maintenance Exhibition and Conference. 27 September-1 October.
- ☐ Birmingham International Ideal Home Exhibition. 14-30 October.
- ☐ Furnaces, Refractories, Heat Treatment, & Fuel Economy Exhibition. 19-23 October.
- ☐ International Sports and Leisure Exhibition. 17-20 October.
- ☐ DACTEX. International Domestic and Contract Textiles Exhibition. 31 October- 4 November.
- ☐ Public Works Congress and Exhibition Construction Equipment Municipal Services. 15-20 November.
- ☐ ENPOCON. Environmental Pollution Control Exhibition. 15-20 November.
- ☐ E.W.T. Effluent and Water Treatment Exhibition and Convention. 15-20 November.
- ☐ Offshore International Exhibition and Conference. 7-10 December.

For information tick the appropriate boxes and return to:
National Exhibition Centre
Birmingham B40 1NT (ENGLAND)

Name _____

Organisation _____

Address _____

_____

Country _____ TI

National Exhibition Centre Birmingham

Top left is the new Birmingham International railway station which connects directly via a walkway with the exhibition complex (top centre). In the foreground is Pendigo Lake and the hotel and conference centre.

authority from building this terminal, but travellers will be able to use a shuttle bus link from the main air terminal to the exhibition which will take between five and seven minutes. Scheduled air services into Elmdon are operated to Amsterdam, Brussels, Copenhagen, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt and Paris.

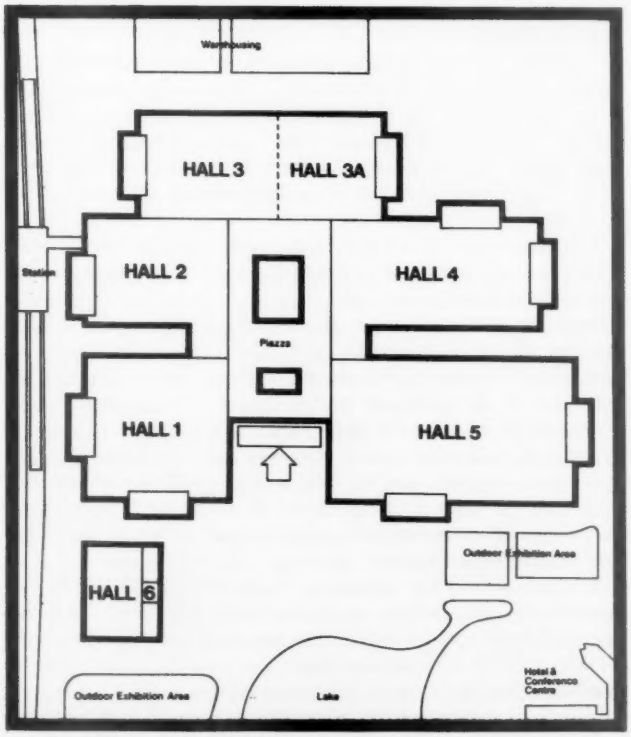
Purpose-designed for convenience

Because it has been designed some years after other European Centres, the NEC has gained from the experience of such cities as Frankfurt, Hanover and Dusseldorf. Edward D. Mills and Partners (architects of the exhibition halls) and Ove Arup and Partners (consulting engineers) have taken advantage of this opportunity, carefully analysing the needs of exhibition organisers and exhibitors before the hall layout was finished. The reaction of visitors from all parts of the world who have seen the buildings is that Birmingham will possess Europe's most efficiently designed complex – and one of the most attractive.

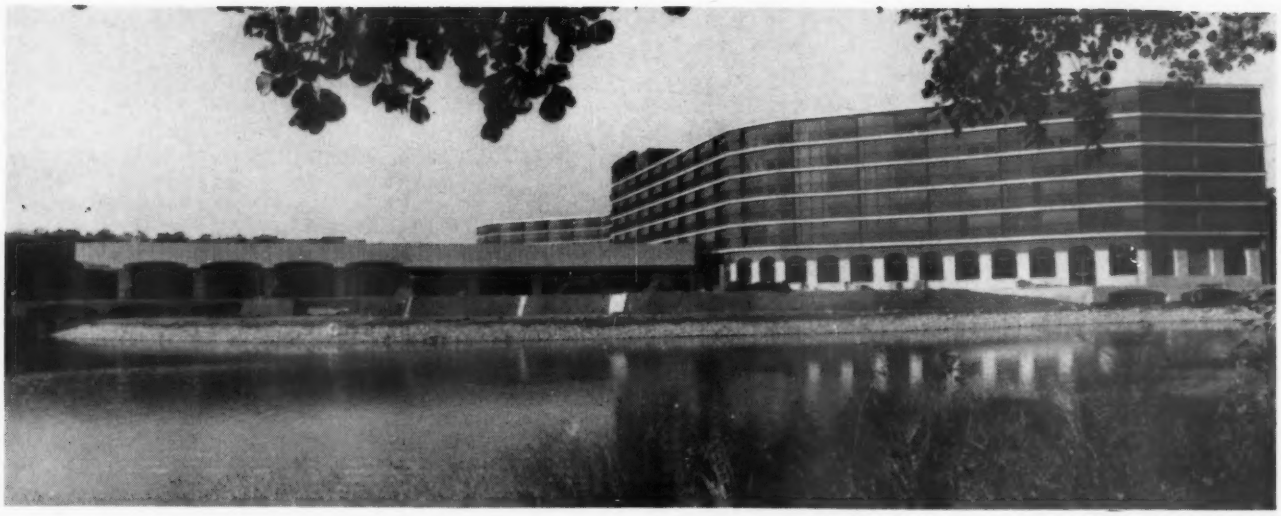
The whole complex covers 310 acres of landscaped undulating countryside on which 60,000 trees and 40,000 shrubs have been planted. Alongside the 16-acre lake are two hotels and a conference centre, both of which may be used in conjunction with or independent of the exhibition site itself. The lake acts as a 'balance tank' for the storm water which will drain from the 27 acres of roof and 76 acres of car park. It will also be used for marine exhibits and sailing.

The NEC and the design team were determined to keep walking distances between the display areas to the minimum. The six main halls have, therefore, been grouped compactly around a central piazza, which has two paved garden areas in the centre of an arcade of shops, banks and offices to which the visitor will initially be directed whether he arrives by road, rail or air.

The piazza leads into all the six exhibition halls which surround it and is, in the words of one of the designers, the jam in the centre of the doughnut. NEC Ltd. has its offices in the piazza, which also acts as the nerve centre of the complex. The



Layout of the exhibition halls.



At the far side of Pendigo Lake is the Metropole Hotel (right) with the Conference Centre being the long low building fronting on to the lake on the left.

fire-fighting force is stationed there, as is the medical centre, which has access to an underground road for ambulances. There is also an operational base for the world's press, with working space, teleprinter, telex and telephone facilities, TV and radio interviewing rooms. This accommodation supplements that available in each exhibition hall.

In the piazza are situated registration and inquiry desks, while transportable kiosks for other services can be hired by organisers and placed in the arcades.

Space and versatility in the halls

The main exhibition halls grouped around the piazza vary in size from 3,990m² to 25,300m² and when the complex is being used for one event, full-height shutters between the halls can be opened to give a single unit offering 85,635m² of space. For smaller events halls can be let individually or in groups. Hall 6, with 3,785m² of space has been deliberately separated from the main complex. It has been designed to take small specialist exhibitions and will have its own catering and cloakroom facilities.

The need for uncongested access by goods vehicles has also been recognised and 37 electrically operated special entrances (5.5m high and 7.5m wide) are located around the halls. Wherever possible, the goods doors have been placed opposite each other so that lorries can drive straight into the halls, unload at the stand, and drive out through the opposite side of the hall.

The interiors of halls have deliberately been left uncluttered as they are intended as a neat and unobtrusive background for the exhibition designers' individual style and layout. Interior columns have been kept to the minimum, giving 30m clear spans in all areas except the high level central section of the large Hall 5, where the clear span is 60m and the height 23m.

Exhibitors in particular will welcome the air-conditioned environment which will help them get through a lengthy working day. A total of 101 roof-level air-conditioning units have been installed, each individually controlled and capable of cooling (35 tons of refrigeration in every unit), heating or circulating air to meet the varying requirements of build-up, open and dismantling periods of an exhibition.

Another facility for exhibitors, claimed to be unique in the exhibition world, are the sections of wall panelling along the front of Halls 1 and 5 which can be removed so that special exhibits can be located externally yet can also be linked to stands and reception areas within the halls.

In order to allow stands to be set up and serviced as efficiently as possible, an underground service network has been built which will allow the provision of services to stands while contractors at floor level can concentrate on assembling the stand itself and installing exhibits. Walkway service tunnels have been created under the main gangways containing gas, electricity, compressed air, telephone lines, water and waste disposal. The exhibitor can select those services he requires, and NEC engineers will complete the connection via a pattern of service trenches, located at 6m intervals. Close to the halls there will be 15,000m² of warehouse space enabling exhibition contractors, furniture hire, florists and other essential services to be present on site to assist the organiser and designer to meet their tough deadlines.

Rapid development

Following various official reports on the establishment of a national exhibition centre, the concept of which gathered momentum in the 1960s, a steering committee was set up in 1967 and recommended in 1968 that a site of at least 100 acres was required with 1,000,000 ft.² of parking and other ancillary services. Northolt, near London, was suggested, but there were severe planning problems there. It was in 1969 that a liaison committee set up by the Birmingham City Council and the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry advocated a site in the Midlands because clearly the area would be at the hub of British motorway and rail links in the future.

In 1970 sufficient progress had been made for the Government to be able to announce its support for the Midlands solution.

In May, 1970, a non-profit distributing company, NEC Limited, was formed by the two sponsors and outline plans announced. Three months later a design team of international

Hall sizes

Hall	Gross exhibition space		Organisers' offices		Total space		Internal clear height	
	sq. m	sq. ft	sq. m	sq. ft	sq. m	sq. ft	m	ft
1	14,010	150,800	260	2,800	14,270	153,600	16.7	54.8
2	11,520	124,000	230	2,480	11,750	126,480	11.7	38.4
3	10,610	114,210	165	1,775	10,775	115,985	11.7	38.4
3a	7,895	84,980	165	1,775	8,060	86,755	11.7	38.4
3 + 3a	18,505	199,190	330	3,550	18,835	202,740	11.7	38.4
4	16,700	179,760	325	3,500	17,025	183,260	11.7	38.4
5	24,900	268,020	400	4,300	25,300	272,320	16.7	54.8
5 High level	3,600	38,750	—	—	—	—	22.8	74.8
6	3,785	40,740	205	2,210	3,990	42,950	8.6	28.2
Total	89,420	962,510	1,750	18,840	91,170	981,350		

Above, the NEC had its first test of the ease of use by the public earlier this month in an open weekend during which 250,000 people visited the Centre. This is the entrance to the Piazza showing the clarity of the signposting – each hall is colour-coded for ease of identification.

repute was appointed and preparations were immediately made in readiness for the local planning inquiry which opened at Coleshill, Warwickshire, in June the following year.

When, in November 1971, Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for the Environment, granted planning approval for the NEC to be built at Bickenhill, the way was clear for the preparation of detailed plans.

In the meantime, an intensive marketing programme had been launched so that by the time the detailed plans were approved by Warwickshire County Council, NEC Ltd. had been able to announce that such big exhibitions as the International Machine Tool Show and the International Gifts Fair would be staged at the NEC in its first year of operation 1976.

Completion on time

The foresight and prompt action of the Birmingham City Council in buying the land within eight hours of the Government's approval was decisive in the development of NEC. It was also very timely in enabling building to start before inflation became severe, so that the centre's construction was well under way before being affected by recent cost increases.

Now, less than three years since building started, the £44m complex has come to life and will be opened by the Queen on 2 February. On the previous day the first exhibition housed there will open. This will be the 'International Spring Fair '76' for the hardware and giftware industries. Although not open to the public, this important trade fair will occupy all the halls at the NEC and will be an excellent inaugural trial for the facilities there.

In early January the NEC organisation put itself on trial by holding two open days during which 250,000 people visited the site and thronged through the exhibition halls and facilities. The sheer volume of numbers provided some very useful lessons for the organisers in advance of the first real exhibition. They point out in fact that the very large public shows will not be as easy to attract from London as the numerous trade shows which take place all over Britain throughout the year, and that it is these trade shows which will be the backbone of the NEC.

Bookings secured

NEC's bookings now total more than 60 national and international shows for the opening two years, with further bookings in hand for 1977 and inquiries up to 1980. These represent a busy programme of trade exhibitions for such industries as plastics, heating and ventilation, packaging, machine tools, electronics and electrical engineering, leisure goods, laundry equipment and many others. In all they will bring an estimated four million visitors each year to the Midlands.

Exhibition organisers plan to group related events in the much larger space now becoming available. The target is to gain a far more genuinely international status for British-based events than has so far been possible, to enable Britain to move from the second to the first division in the European exhibition calendar and to allow us to compete on the international circuit.

Benefit of the Region

The NEC will also enhance employment prospects in the Midlands. It will lead to more business for services associated with the movement of people and goods, such as financial, insurance and factoring services, freight and road haulage, business and travel agencies. The influx of visitors will also increase demand for other services such as hotels, restaurants and shops. The organisers estimate a further 5,000-6,000 people in employment when the centre is fully operational.

Some 130 hotels are located within 20 miles of the centre, as are a wide variety of restaurants, bars, night clubs and theatres. Two new hotels, providing 700 rooms and an air-conditioned conference hall for 1,200 delegates, have been built at the centre and will open with it. As the NEC develops, so too will the development of more entertainment facilities to occupy the visitors' attention out of exhibition hours.

Stimulus to exports

When the Queen presses the button on Monday which will start the 100 ft. high fountain in the lake, symbolising the opening of the NEC complex, a new era in British exhibitions will open. We are not too sure that Birmingham's night-life and shopping will absorb all the visitors and exhibitors straight away. Many will still commute from London by rail, but in any event this magnificent site will prove popular in its own right and is certainly a worthy showplace for the best of British products.

Closer contact with overseas buyers who will now come in larger numbers to see industrial trade exhibitions in Britain will in itself be a direct stimulus to the country's export business. That brings an opportunity to earn millions of pounds of invisible earnings from tourism, shopping, entertainment and other service industries. The NEC in providing employment and encouraging business, will act as a growth point for a range of activities which have in the past been under-represented in the region.

High technology in the South of France

By J. H. Millar, F.R.Ae.S., British Chamber of Commerce Committee in the Principality of Monaco

Full order books for aerospace

From Marseille in the east to Pau and Marignac in the west, is spread a major proportion of the French aerospace industry, covering civil and military fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters and also engines of a number of types.

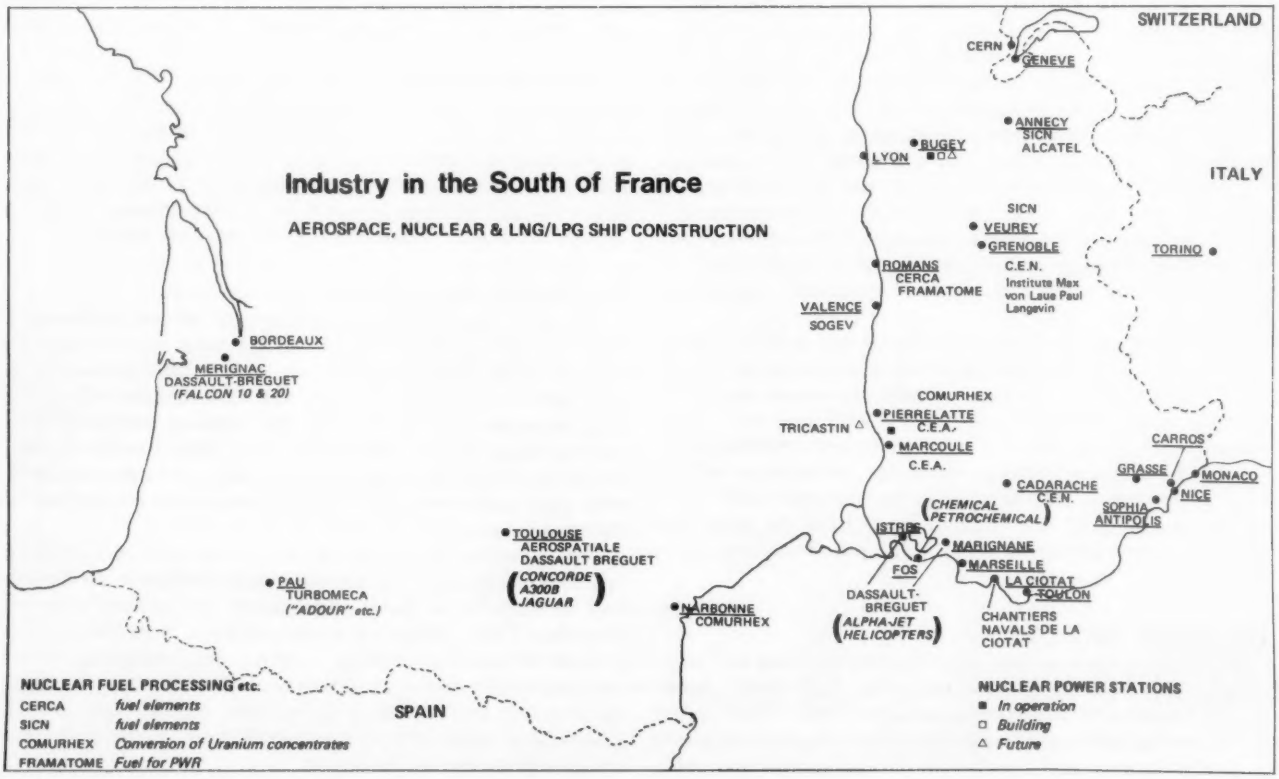
The industry in this region is scheduled to be busy for years ahead with full order books for all types of aircraft and engines. The major programmes are all collaborative in nature, with 50/50 work-sharing between the French firms and their counterparts in the UK and elsewhere. The production centres reviewed here are at Istres, Marignane, Toulouse, Pau and Marignac.

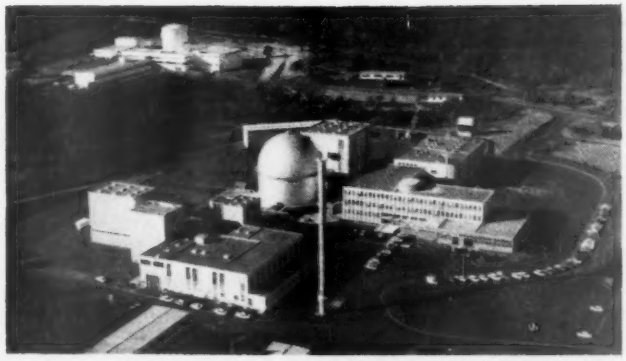
At Istres, to the north-west of Marseille, in the Bouches-du-Rhône, is one of the military aircraft plants of the Dassault-Breguet organisation, currently engaged in collaboration with Dornier in the production of the Franco-German trainer/close air-support aircraft Alpha Jet, of which 200 are initially to be produced for the air forces of each country.

In the same area is the Marignane plant of Aerospatiale, the largest centre of helicopter production in Europe. Apart from Aerospatiale's own design machines, the SA 360, SA 365, Super Frelon, Alouette and SA 315 Lama, a considerable work-force is engaged upon the Anglo-French programmes for the Gazelle, Lynx, Puma and Super-Puma in collaboration with Westland Aircraft, Yeovil. The largest programme is for the Puma, of which 257 have been ordered.

At Toulouse, in the Haute-Garonne, is situated one of the major complexes of the French aerospace industry, on the boundary of the commercial airport at Blagnac. Here are located airframe factories of Aerospatiale and Dassault-Breguet, both engaged on major projects with programmes stretching a number of years ahead, all in collaboration with the UK.

Aerospatiale has both Concorde (16 in production) and the A-300B airbus (55 in production) production lines; the former in collaboration with British Aircraft Corp., and the latter in collaboration with German and Dutch partners but with a major structural component, the wing, being produced by Hawker Siddeley Aviation. The Aerospatiale plant (formerly Sud Aviation) is the home of the successful Caravelle airliner,





Above left, the Turbomeca factory at Bordes, near Pau. Above right, the Rapsodie prototype fast reactor at CEN Cadarache, 80km from Marseille.

only recently phased-out of production with the 250th aircraft.

Dassault-Breguet, via the Sepecat organisation is joint partner with BAC in the production of the Jaguar fighter programme, of which 400 have been ordered for British and French air forces. Only recently the last 'Atlantic' (the 87th) long-range patrol aircraft passed through the Breguet facility.

At Pau, in the Basses-Pyrenees, is located the second French aero-engine manufacturer, Turbomeca, who produce a wide range of gas-turbine powerplants, including all the engines for the French helicopter programme (apart from collaborative projects), the engines for the Jaguar and a new series of turboprop and turbofan engines.

The major programme is the Adour turbofan for the Jaguar, produced in collaboration with Rolls-Royce Ltd., of which over 1,000 copies will be needed for the Jaguar programme alone – the Adour also powers the new Hawker Siddeley Hawk trainer, of which 175 have been ordered, for the RAF.

At Marignac, near Bordeaux is based the 'Falcon' production plant of Dassault-Breguet where the Falcon 10 and 20, and now the new three-engined Falcon 50, are produced.

Demands of the nuclear boom

A major proportion of the nuclear industry of France is spread out to the west of the River Rhone from Lyon in the north to the Mediterranean coast. Grouped in this area are nuclear power stations, research establishments, the fuel cycle industry and a host of ancilliary industries which have grown from the demands of the nuclear boom.

In the area there are two commercial nuclear power stations in operation, at Bugey near Lyon (540Mw) and at Marcoule near Avignon. A second station is building at Bugey (925Mw) and new sites in hand are at Bugey also, at

The shipyard at La Ciotat near Toulon, where bulk carrier ships for LNG/LPG transportation are built.

Marcoule, near Avignon. Just out of the picture on the left is the third-generation sodium-cooled Phenix prototype.

Creys-Malville close by, at Tricastin near Marcoule and at Port-la-Nouvelle on the Mediterranean coast. Other possible sites are under consideration by EDF (Electricite de France) who own and operate the commercial nuclear power stations.

To support the demands for fuel and the entire fuel cycle involved for the French nuclear power programme, the area contains the UF6 (uranium hexafluoride) conversion plants of the Comurhex organisation at Pierrelatte and Narbonne (Malvesi) and also the necessary laboratories, workshops, etc.

At Romans is situated one of the plants of Framatome-Pechiney Ugine Kuhlmann which manufactures the fuel for the light water reactor, the second-generation design type reactor for the French nuclear power programme.

Production of fuel elements for this rapidly growing energy source also takes place in this area and is shared between the Cerca plant at Romans, Sicn plants at Annecy and Veurey, near Grenoble, and also the Comurhex and Framatome facilities referred to above.

The 'third generation', or fast breeder, sodium-cooled, reactor design is also being evolved in the area with the operational 250Mw prototype station 'Phenix' situated at Marcoule, and the site for the first high power (1,200Mw) station proposed at Creys-Malville.

Research and development on the fast breeder reactor is based on one of the major CEA research establishments which is situated at Cadarache in the Bouches due Rhone, 80km from Marseille. Also located here is the prototype 'fast' reactor 'Rapsodie'. Other principal research and production establishments are at Grenoble and Marcoule.

To support this major proportion of the French nuclear industry, many ancilliary plants have grown up in the zone under discussion, providing every type of capability from precision machinery and fabrication to sophisticated instrumentation, control systems, components, etc.

Liquid natural/petroleum gas

At La Ciotat, near Toulon, is based the shipbuilding yard, Chantiers Navals de la Ciotat where specially designed, insulated bulk carrier vessels are designed and built for the rapidly growing worldwide transportation of LNG/LPG (liquefied natural gas/liquefied petroleum gas) and related chemical products. The organisation Constructions Navals et Industrielles de la Mediterranee is also based in this area.

Service après vente

In these highly technical fields – Britain has established a commanding lead in aerospace, nuclear research and nuclear power, the acceptability of British-designed and manufactured technical products in the large and profitable European market is governed by effective product support and 'service après vente'.

'After-sales service' or 'product support' to use the current term, embraces the many responsibilities which British manufacturers who seriously intend to go after a share, or a bigger share, of export business must be prepared to undertake.

Product support includes spares provisioning based on reliability records from which overhaul periods and service life can be calculated. Availability of spares as part of the sales back-up can make or break (in the case of non-availability) the export sales effort and of course the goodwill accruing to the manufacturer. All servicing, maintenance and overhaul brochures and manuals must be in the language of the country where the goods are sold – and in colloquial words as used by operating personnel.

In Europe 'service après vente' (in Germany 'Kundendienst' in Italy 'servizio di assistenza tecnica' and in Spain 'servicio de post-venta') must be firmly tied in with an effective European sales engineering organisation, for without the former, the latter will get nowhere, and my experience proves neither can be sustained from the UK headquarters. In my view only those firms who establish their European headquarters on the continent, and with it an effective product-support organisation, will succeed in capturing a profitable share of this important market.

Establishing a European headquarters on the continent of Europe is not so formidable as it may sound. The important point is to bear in mind that such an undertaking must be

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organised no less efficiently than that of the British firm's European opposite numbers who are not necessarily competitors, although they may be firms in a similar line of business.

Some of the products and equipment items in the fields referred to earlier that are needed for European programmes are listed below. As an example the European nuclear programme offers many opportunities for British participation. Although the nuclear power programme has been slowed down it is some 20 times the size of the British one.

British manufacturers wishing to share in this business would have to provide a physical presence on the continent of Europe. It is not sufficient to appoint 'sales agents' or distributors, however reliable and efficient they may be, because they cannot assume responsibility for technical conformity, inspection requirements, or delivery to precise dates.

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Vacuum chambers and beam tubes
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Thermocouples
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Filters
Precision fabrications
Couplings

Vacuum-Cryogenic

Turbo molecular pumps
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Cryo-pumps
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Vacuum leak detectors
Couplings
Instrumentation

LNG/LPG

Liquification plant
Valves
Couplings
Pumps
Filters
Transporters
Contents gauging
Safety monitoring
Compressors
Flow regulators
Handling equipment ship-dockside

CEN Grenoble, where nuclear research and production is carried out against a magnificent Alpine backdrop.

BOTB News

Greater exports mean more jobs as well as profits

Sir Frederick Catherwood, chairman of the BOTB, opening a conference organised by the board on breaking the export profitability barrier held in Southampton on 21 January said: 'Success in exports is even more important for jobs than for company profits. The higher our exports, the higher our employment: the lower our exports the more people on the dole. So every working man and woman has a stake in exports.

'Since the war whenever unemployment has risen governments have pumped in more money, expanded the economy and employment has risen. Maybe governments can do that again but there is a lot of doubt about it. We are nearly £2,000 million sterling a year in the red. We have to borrow that amount from the foreigner to start with if we are to stay level and to expand the whole market we have to borrow more on top. That £2,000 million does not leave the British Government in a very strong position to borrow without strings, to restrict imports or to do anything else it may want to do.

'On the other hand higher exports does two jobs at once. It reduces the borrowing need and gives government more freedom to expand consumption and meantime it helps reduce unemployment. If it is as helpful as all that you might wonder why we don't do more of it.

'Well, one reason is that in the past exports have not been so profitable for most companies as the home market. When we were not a member of the European Community we had high tariffs against us and other community members had an advantage in any community market. The French could undercut us in Germany; the Germans could undercut us in France. And when the pound was higher we paid less for our imports but got less in our exports. But with a $2 pound we are now a relatively cheap producer in Europe and a recent survey showed that most companies made more money from export markets than they did from the home market. So companies don't now rely nearly so much as they did on the expansion of the home market.

'Another reason is that there has been competition for resources between home and export markets. All post-war governments have had heavy public expenditure programmes and instead of investing in factories for export we have invested heavily in new shopping centres, schools, universities, hospitals, office blocks, tower blocks and town halls. None of these create new jobs – they rehouse people doing existing jobs in better conditions. But a new factory existing for exports does create new jobs and, if we hold on to the new market, permanent jobs. The Government has recognised the need to make this kind of shift but first of all we have to find the new export markets.'

EDP and communications in international trade

A year ago the Simplification of International Trade Procedures Board (SITPRO), commissioned Leonard Griffiths and Associates to carry out a preliminary inquiry into the application of electronic data processing (EDP) and data communications to procedures and information flows associated with the surface movement of goods into and out of British seaports. A report of their findings has been circulated to those who assisted in the inquiry and to others who have a particular interest in the subject matter.

A significant finding of the inquiry is that more companies and organisations are applying data processing methods to international trade procedures than was previously thought.

The consultants' report includes suggestions for two areas of future activity. The first is concerned with the development of a set of standards with regard to the presentation and identification of data for exchange between international trade participants over computer-to-computer links. It is proposed that this activity should cover the development of formats and coding for the standard messages and data elements used in international trade rather than the technical aspects of character coding, line protocol and so on, which may vary between equipment manufacturers, communication modes and telecommunication carriers. This should take into account relevant work by other national and international bodies.

The consultants also suggested that a study of the feasibility of developing a port-based cargo control system for a port and its users should be initiated. This should include a review of the cost benefits and advantages which might be gained from the development of a computerised port-based cargo control system, covering both unitised and conventional cargo, suitable for general application in a range of medium sized UK ports.

The SITPRO board was set up in June 1970 to guide, stimulate and assist the rationalisation of international trade procedures and the documentation and information flows associated with them.

The SITPRO board intends to hold a two day seminar, probably in early April, where those who took part in the inquiry, along with other interests, will be invited to discuss the contents of the report. In the meantime, interested parties who wish to contribute their views on the standards recommendation are invited to contact the SITPRO office at 11-12 Waterloo Place, London SW1Y 4AU (tel. 01-839 3393).

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Missions and Tours

Petroleum equipment follow-up to Iran

A 20-man trade mission, supported by the BOTB and organised by the Council of British Manufacturers of Petroleum Equipment (CBMPE) left Britain on 23 January for a two-week visit to Iran on a follow-up to the high-level mission to Iran last November led by Lord Beswick, then Minister of State at the Department of Industry.

The mission aims to sell equipment to the Iranian petroleum, gas and petrochemical industries. The leader is Mr. J. D. Cumming, a director of BICC (Export) Ltd., and a member of the previous mission.

Visit to south of Iran

Before visiting Tehran, where members are due to have discussions with the Iranian authorities, the mission spent a week in the south of Iran visiting the Abadan refinery, the petrochemical plants in Bandar Sharpur, and the Ahwaz headquarters of the Oil Services Company of Iran (OSCO) which is responsible for 90 per cent of Iranian oil production. During their visit mission members met staff who are responsible for operating equipment and learned more about the conditions in which it is used.

China mining equipment

At the direct invitation of the China Coal Society, the Association of British Mining Equipment Exporters arranged a mission in conjunction with the British Overseas Trade Board of 14 ABMEX members. The visit to China took place from 20 November to 4 December 1975 and the members visited two coal mines in the Tatung coal field where they saw both Chinese and British equipment.

Opportunities were also afforded the mission of visiting factories manufacturing coal cutters, shearers and roof supports.

A new five-year and ten-year plan has just been started by the Chinese Government and from talks which mission members had during their visit, it appears there will be further business opportunities in China for UK manufacturers in the future.

Birmingham mission to Argentina and Brazil

Among the numerous trade missions planned for this year by Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce is one which will take Midlands businessmen to the two most prosperous countries in South America – Argentina and Brazil – between 9-22 May.

Argentina is one of the most highly developed countries in Latin America and, at the present time, the UK occupies only fifth place – behind the USA, West Germany, Brazil and Japan – both as a supplier to and a buyer from this market of 24 million people.

A mission to Brazil has become an annual event for the Chamber and, year after year, the results have more than justified a visit to this market where our exports have risen from £17 million in 1966 to £143 million in 1974.

Further information from: Arthur Jackson, Overseas Trade Secretary, tel: 021-454 6171, ext. 234.

Services to exporters

The following Government offices provide services for UK exporters:

Headquarters

Export Services and Promotions Division

Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757. Telex 886143 DTI EXPORT LDN

Regional

Scotland

Scottish Economic Planning Department
Industrial Development Division
314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G3 8XF
Tel. 041-248 2855. Telex 77583 SEPD GLASGOW

Inverness District Office

Caledonia House, 63/67 Academy Street, Inverness IV1 1LU
Tel. (0463) 30867

Wales

Welsh Office

Industry Department
Government Buildings, Gabalfa, Cardiff CF4 4YL
Tel. (0222) 62131. Telex 49267 INDUSTRY CARDIF

Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Office

Priestley House, 1 Park Row, Leeds LS1 5LF
Tel. (0532) 443171. Telex 557925/6 DTI LEEDS

Northern Regional Office

Wellbar House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4TR
Tel. (0632) 27575. Telex 53178 DTI NTYNE

Cumbria District Office

Town Hall, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 9NP
Tel. (090-082) 3498/9. Telex 64173 DTI COCKERMOUTH

North-Western Regional Office

Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA
Tel. 061-236 2171. Telex 667104 DTI MCHR

West-Midlands Regional Office

Ladywood House, Stephenson Street, Birmingham B2 4DT
Tel. 021-632 4111. Telex 337021 DTI BHAM

East-Midlands Regional Office

Cranbrook House, 47 Cranbrook Street, Nottingham NG1 1ES
Tel. (0602) 46121. Telex 37143 DTI NOTTM

South-Western Regional Office

The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2PB
Tel. (0272) 291071. Telex 44214 DTI BRISTOL

Northern Ireland Department of Commerce

Chichester House, 64 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4JX
Tel. (0232) 34488. Telex 747025 GOVNI BELFAST

Exhibitions and Fairs

Record attendance at Atlantic City giftware show

From Roland Willcox, British Consulate General, Philadelphia: Ushering in America's Bicentennial year, the 18th annual China and Glass Show held at Convention Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey from 4-8 January, marked the occasion of a second joint venture sponsored by the Department of Trade and the British Jewellry and Giftware Federation. This year 24 British firms showed their products to a record 15,000 store buyers visiting this five-day exhibition.

More than 251,000 ft² (net) of booth space was occupied by some 750 exhibitors on five different levels of the exhibition complex, which offers a total of about 500,000 ft² (gross) of floor space.

This show, the premier American show of its kind and the most popular table top and giftware exposition, can be seen to have proved its value to exhibitors and popularity with buyers by its growth over five years from 450 exhibitors and 6,000 visitors to well over double the size.

While the Bicentennial theme was evident in many products, this year's show reflects the forward thinking of manufacturers in efforts focused on merchandise with a longer life span. Pewter, silver, fine china florals and miniatures were in the forefront.

Products on show covered not only the traditional china and glassware but included virtually any item which can conceivably enhance the decor and comforts of the home, with prices ranging from a few cents to thousands of dollars.

The British Jewellry and Giftware Federation, as co-sponsors, manned a busy information booth, answering questions on products on display, sources of supply of British goods, trade shows in Britain and a variety of queries on the trade in general.

The Bicentennial celebrations now already in progress have sparked increased interest in British goods and, coupled with an upturn in the American economy, have caused a visible easing in the cautious buying which was evident at the previous show in January 1975, the world wide increase in wholesale and retail prices notwithstanding.

British exhibitors were not only in time to take advantage of Bicentennial buying but to gain profitable exposure of their products with a view to sales well beyond the 200th birthday of the USA, and the Atlantic City China and Glass Show continues to be one of the best shop windows in which to do it.

British joint venture participation in Paris goes up

Sublime Lighting Ltd. of London were among 15 British companies exhibiting under joint venture terms at the International Lighting Exhibition in Paris from 15-20 January. The British contingent was sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board in association with the Decorative Lighting Association.

Last year a total of 735 British exhibitors took part in 33 Paris fairs on joint venture terms. Participation by British firms at Paris events has been on the increase for a number of years and last year's figures were a record. In 1973 – a similar year on the Paris fairs' calendar – 647 joint venture exhibitors took part in 27 events. The same comparison between 1972 and 1974 – also similar years on the fairs calendar – shows that the number of joint venture participants went up from 400 to 651 and the number of events attracting participation increased from 21 to 31.

Baghdad International Fair, 1–21 October

The British Overseas Trade Board will organise a British Pavilion at this fair provided there is sufficient response from industry.

Although Iraq remains a country with a strong agricultural tradition, the discovery of oil and the overall steady increase in revenue from oil have enabled successive regimes to diversify and industrialise the economy, in addition to the improvement and modernisation of agriculture.

In a recent report by the Department of Trade, in co-operation with the Committee for Middle East Trade, the British Embassy, Baghdad, and others the following fields were highlighted as being areas where expansion in Iraq will be greatest over the next five years: Oil and petrochemicals; metallurgical, chemical, paper and automobile industries; building materials industry; consumer goods industries, for example food processing, packaging; irrigation and farming; transport facilities (rail, road, sea, air, river); telecommunications; public building and housing; education and health; public services; fisheries.

The fair itself is a general trade event and covers a wide range of products and services.

For further information and details of the support offered by the BOTB together with costs, and an application form for space, contact G. A. Casburn, Room 115, Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 602.

£825,000 orders for British textiles machinery makers

The 104 British exhibitors sponsored by the BOTB at the International Exhibition of Textile Machinery in Milan last October achieved orders worth more than £825,000. Some of the British firms were already selling up to 70 per cent of their output abroad, other companies found in Milan an opportunity of improving their exports.

British firms reported orders of up to £500,000 before the exhibition closed and further orders have been taken as a result of inquiries made during the 10-day show. The reaction of British exhibitors is typified by that of John Heathcoat and Co., of Tiverton, Devon. 'Our stand was always busy, and when we were demonstrating our new Fibre M texturising process at 4,000 metres per minute, we were swamped with visitors.' The number of inquiries was so great that Heathcoat have now embarked on a further development programme.

Singer (UK) concentrated its exhibits on tufting machinery and before the exhibition had ended they were able to announce orders exceeding £500,000. The main sources of business were Germany, Austria, Japan, Switzerland and France. Detexomat Machinery Ltd., of High Wycombe, Bucks, presented two new British products for which, at the end of the 10-day exhibition, orders totalled more than £225,000 with more to come as a result of follow-up.

Among the most successful of all exhibitors at Milan was the B. and W. Machine Co. Ltd. They report 'a considerable volume of orders and over 1,200 individual inquiries dealt with'. The firm showed for the first time its new Rotafuse fusing/transfer printing press which sells at between £1,350 and £1,600 according to specifications. In the first few days alone there were orders for 21 Rotafuses with more orders to be confirmed.

Shock treatment for Finnish doctors

From G. D. B. Grönroos, Commercial Publicity Officer, British Embassy, Helsinki: The annual Finnish medical conference and exhibition 'Medicine 76' was held at Dipoli near Helsinki from 4-9 January. Four British doctors lectured at the conference, which this year concentrated on shock treatment.

Mrs. Irma Toivanen, the new Minister of Health and Social Affairs, attended the opening and later toured the exhibition, which included displays of pharmaceuticals and medicines, medical instruments and equipment. She visited and spoke to members on the British stand.

The exhibitors were mainly local manufacturers or local agents, including subsidiaries of foreign pharmaceutical companies. The products of about 250 foreign companies, including about 50 British, were on show.

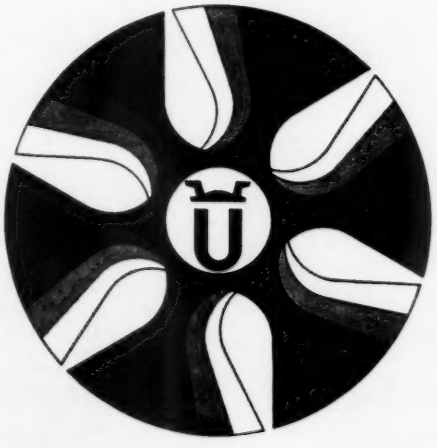
Despite its small population, Finland is a very good market for British pharmaceuticals. Exports last year were in the region of £3½ million. British exports to Finland of medical instruments, appliances and equipment are also important; but there is room for improvement.

British domestic appliances in Japan

A domestic appliances exhibition is being held for the first time at the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo from 27-31 January as a result of a survey published last year by the British Overseas Trade Board. A total of 15 British firms are taking part with the support of the BOTB in co-operation with the Association of Manufacturers of Domestic Electrical Appliances.

The companies are presenting a comprehensive range of the latest British developments in their field. Exhibits include electric and gas cookers, kettles, coffee percolators, heating panels, laundry equipment, boilers, food mixers, refrigerators, clothes tumble driers, irons, grills, ventilators, heated food trolleys and hairdriers.

Last year's survey dealt with 30 domestic appliances. It estimated that the exhibition would provide an excellent opportunity for British manufacturers to contact and identify Japanese importers and sales agents.



spring fair

utrecht netherlands
7th - 11th march 1976
daily from 9 am - 6 pm. but on sunday 7th march from 10 am - 6 pm.

clocks. gold and silverware / optics / glassware, pottery, crystalware and china / cutlery / housewares / giftware / far eastern articles / handicraft articles / costume jewellery / toileteries / smoker's requisites / lighting goods / leather goods / toys, handicraft and hobby requisites, sports goods and party novelties / office supplies and -machines / stationery.

relatie'76

exhibition of business gifts, free gift articles and premiums to be staged concurrently with the spring fair.

u. k. agents
exhibition consultants ltd.,
11 manchester square, london WIM 5 AB
phone: 09 - 44 1 486 1951

organisation / catalogue
royal netherlands industries fair, utrecht
phone: (30) 914 914 - telex 47132.

Technology

The Engineering Specialists

In London: Advances in engineering on show

The Engineering Specialists exhibition at the Design Centre, London until 21 February shows something of the wide range of technical expertise available to Britain's engineering industry.

Taking part are 16 sponsored and private research organisations and consultancies. Advances in engineering metals and in the application of computers are well represented. Exhibits cover also the mechanical, electrical and civil engineering fields as well as energy utilisation.

The exhibition is the second of an annual series sponsored by the Design Council. The display of models, selected hardware, brochures and other printed information was opened on Tuesday, 20 January by Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry. With him was Lord Caldecote, chairman of the Design Council.

'Low noise'

Company participation includes the development of novel metals, such as those with high damping properties, featured by Delta Materials Research Ltd. Examples of 'low noise' foundry fettling tools illustrate the practical value of this research work. British Aircraft Corporation show how components, previously assembled from a multiplicity of individually processed parts can now be made in a single operation, and the Harwell Research Laboratory of UK Atomic Energy Authority concentrate on the development and use of new or improved metals and dynamic radiography.

The technical services of International Research and Development Ltd. are represented by examples of electron beam welding – there are examples also of the company's interest in hydraulics – and Fulmer Research Institute and the Paint Research Association focus attention on the microbiological aspects of paint. Fulmer's exhibit also illustrates the range of skills from the Yarsley Polymer Engineering Centre in leisure, medical equipment, packaging, business appliances and specialised processing equipment.

Help from the universities

The significance of universities as advisors to industry is illustrated by the inclusion of Loughborough and Brunel.

Brunel Industrial Services Bureau identify the University's capacity to provide specialised guidance on plastics moulding and metal castings. Loughborough Consultants Ltd., a company established by Loughborough University of Technology, show how they can help with noise problems, and, with illustrations in the form of montages and diagrams, indicate the University's approach to design.

Non-metals

With engineering applications for non-metals increasing annually the Rubber and Plastics Research Association shows its design capabilities. Examples of novel plant such as a fluidised bed for continuous vulcanisation, and a continuous intensive mixer for dispersing carbon black in liquid rubber draw attention to other aspects of the Association's work.

Other exhibitors include the Mechanical Engineering Laboratories of GEC Power Engineering Ltd., with illustrations covering activities in mechanical engineering research, development and design, and the Computer Aided Design Centre who feature several computer techniques as well as a film describing recent advances in computer graphics. ERA Ltd., focus attention on its capability in system development and capacity for undertaking special surveys. Associated Engineering Developments Ltd., include a working exhibit of a high energy plasma jet spark plug currently undergoing evaluation, and the Cartner Group Ltd., demonstrate its involvement in special purpose machinery with a hard-rock tunnelling machine.

Evaluation and testing

There are photographs of a variety of projects undertaken by BSP Industries Ltd. Plessey Product Assessment Laboratories' capacity for evaluation and testing is well demonstrated as is also the work of Metra Consulting whose engineering studies have included work in the fields of hydraulic power, materials handling, process control, pneumatics, bonding and telemetering.

Many of the organisations taking part are inviting managers, engineers, designers and draughtsmen to specialist seminars throughout the duration of the exhibition.

Above left: Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, looking at a CERN vacuum chamber module, one of the BAC exhibits at the 'Engineering Specialists' exhibition at the Design Centre, London, until 21 February. Centre: Cartner Group Ltd.'s capacity for undertaking major projects is well expressed by this hard-rock tunnelling machine. Right: A section of an RB211 aero engine, a feature of the display by Harwell Research Laboratory, UKAEA.

Opposite page: Eric Varley with (far left) Lord Caldecote, chairman of the Design Council, and (right) Sir Paul Reilly, director of the Design Council, at the opening of the exhibition.

The Engineering Specialists

In Scotland: New designs and products from NEL

The many practical ways in which the National Engineering Laboratory can help industry are featured in an exhibition at the Scottish Design Centre opened by Lord Kirkhill, Minister of State at the Scottish Office, on Monday, 26 January, and on show until 21 February 1976. It will also be held at the Design Centre, London from 17 March to 17 April.

Established 27 years ago as a centre for research, development and test work in mechanical engineering, NEL is now the largest centre of its type in the UK. Its East Kilbride laboratories are organised into autonomous groups dealing with fluid transfer and fluid mechanics, structures and materials, manufacturing systems and special projects. Some of the Laboratory's successes in these areas are highlighted in the exhibition with attention focused particularly on product development, design and test services, technical communications, applied research and development as well as offshore technology.

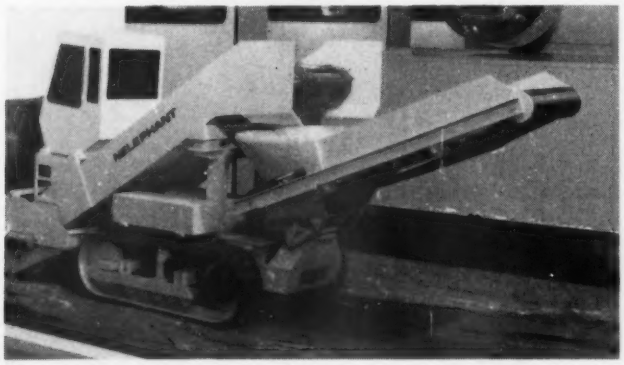
Jointly funded by central government and contracted research projects, the Laboratory's main objective is to help increase production capability and improve product quality of British engineered goods. The development and application of new engineering concepts is, therefore, a high priority task and NEL carries it through to arranging exploitation licences with appropriate engineering companies.

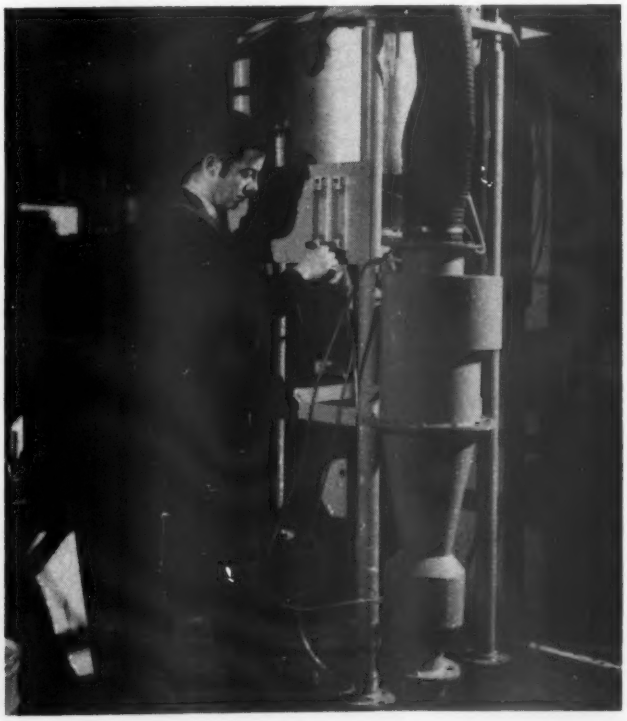
Commercial applications

Scottish industry has already benefited from the commercial applications which have emerged from the Laboratory's hydrostatic drive research and development programme. Anderson Mavor Ltd. of Motherwell and the Carron Co. of Falkirk respectively, manufacture, under separate licensing agreements, a hydrostatic pump which is used in coal cutting machinery and hydrostatic ball motor with wide application in forklift trucks, forestry machines, road rollers and harvesting machines.

At the entrance to the exhibition, models of a lift truck and a larger version of the type of dump truck regularly seen on building sites illustrate the improved aesthetic options open to manufacturers who wish to exploit the design freedom offered by incorporating a hydrostatic drive into a vehicle structure at the outset of the design.

New applications are being found as a result of NEL's continued hydrostatic drive design studies. Currently a small Wicormarine work boat fitted with a hydrostatic propeller





Opposite top left: A hydrostatic drive fork-lift truck. The model illustrates the improved aesthetic options open to manufacturers by incorporating a hydrostatic drive into a vehicle structure at the outset of the design.

Opposite bottom left: A model of the Nelephant – a new earth-moving machine which uses vibratory power for earth cutting.

Opposite right: Model testing of turbine in NEL water tunnel.

Bottom: Inert gas atomisation plant for the preparation of low oxygen powder for use in powder metallurgy.

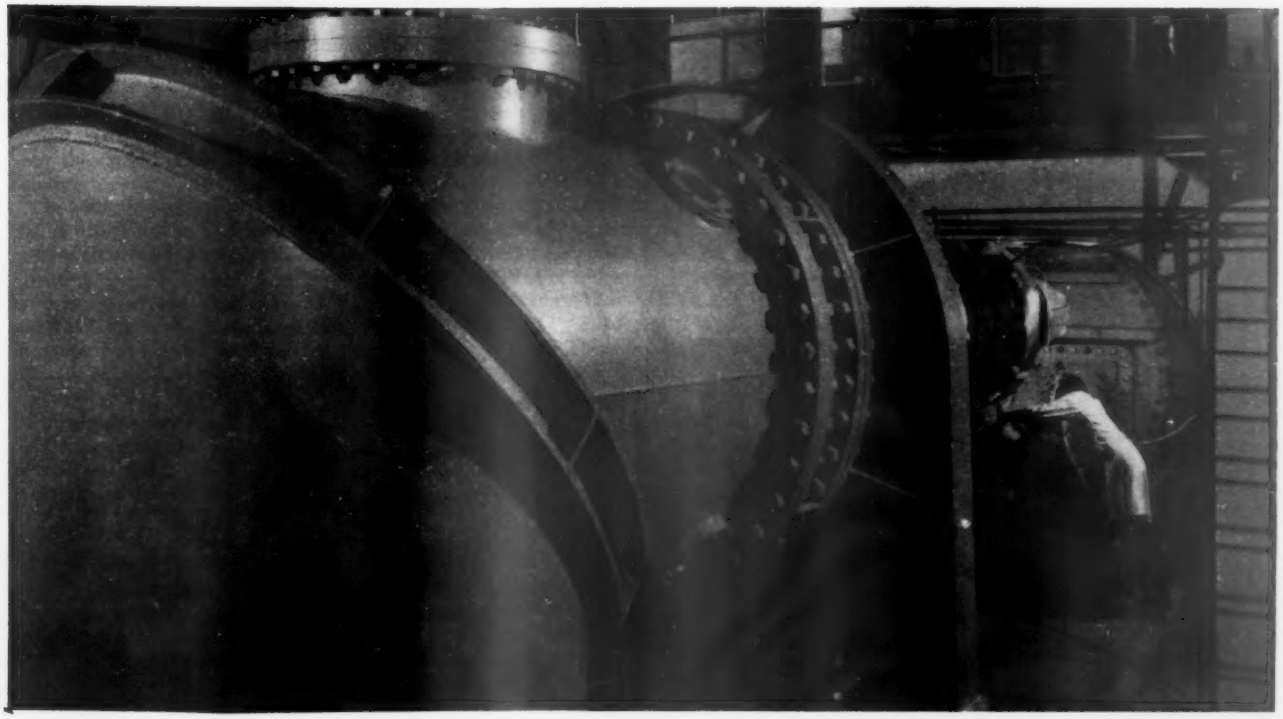
drive is showing considerable potential in another marine application. Working prototypes of the drive system for the propulsion of giant offshore oil production platforms are under consideration. Hydrostatic power tools capable of working underwater at depths down to 2,000 ft are also being developed. These include rotary impact tools for nut running and similar operations as well as vibratory tools for core sampling.

Oil exploration

Well placed to make a significant contribution to solving some of the many problems exposed during North Sea oil exploration, NEL has developed a self-burying anchor called the Hydropin. This anchor literally pumps itself into the sea-bed to provide tremendous holding power required for the oil production and drilling platforms in aggressive North Sea conditions. The same self-burying principle can be applied to placing large structures on the sea-bed and also for dredging shipping channels.

Work on mooring systems has progressed to the stage where NEL has proposed an Automatic Position Control which enables a ship to be placed relative to previously fixed points on a jetty and to maintain the desired mooring position irrespective of changes in wind, sea or passing traffic. No matter how well a ship can be positioned by the APC or any other method, it can only be held in position by rope or chain. Extensive facilities are available at the laboratories to carry out tests on chain and rope to ensure reliability especially under the cyclic effects of wave actions at single buoy moorings. Examples of typical pieces of rope are exhibited with photographs of some of the test machines which can also be used for testing safety belts and harnesses to improve designs and meet all relevant safety requirements.

The design and test services offered to industry by NEL are wide ranging – manufacturers of heavy vehicles can save on fuel bills, for instance, by bringing vehicles to East Kilbride where they will be placed on a road simulator – and the Laboratory's facilities for testing, model building, computer programming and special project work are seldom equalled. Many of these facilities such as £100,000 worth of noise testing equipment, £300,000 worth of metrology equipment and a heat transfer and fluid service, jointly run by NEL and AERE Harwell, are available on a 'club' basis. This means the equipment can be used, for a small annual fee, by companies whenever required.



Customs notices of interest to exporters

The following Public Notices issued by HM Customs and Excise relate to various aspects of export procedure. Copies of these Notices may be obtained from the local Officer of Customs and Excise, whose address appears in the telephone directory and to whom all inquiries should be addressed, or from the Secretary, HM Customs and Excise, 39-41 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE.

7	Drawback on mixed or blended beers when exported or deposited in bonded warehouse.
17 (May 1973)	Arrangements for preferential trade between the Channel Islands and the United Kingdom.
49	Temporary importations: international co-operation.
104	Temporary importations and exportations under ATA and ECS Carnets.
112	Authorised hours for Customs work at ports, airports and in long rooms and charges for attendance given at the request of merchants.
112A	Charges for attendance given at private premises at the request of merchants.
118	Samples imported for promoting export trade.
132A	Sugar: cessation of Import Duties and Imposition of Levies under the Common Agricultural Policy of the EEC and the Sugar Board Charge.
172	Hydrocarbon Oils: drawback of duty.
207	Re-imported goods: relief from Customs duty and Value Added Tax.
210	Temporary importation of films and similar goods for copying, printing, etc., to fulfil export orders.
221	Process Inwards Relief and Pre-financing of export refunds on products for process.
224	The examination of bottled beer, exported on drawback, at the premises of a licensed brewer for sale, or beer dealer, as an alternative to examination on the quay.
241	European Economic Community: Compensatory Levy.
275	Documentation of Exports for Statistical Purposes.
276	Customs Entry forms in the C273 Series: Guidance on their completion.
290	Export of personal and household effects.
291	Claims for drawback on goods exported where there has been a variation in the duty rate.
300	Export reliefs scheduling scheme.
703	VAT – Exports. (Revised November 1973)
704	VAT – Retail Export Schemes. (Revised November 1973)
705	VAT – Tax free sales of motor vehicles to tourists, etc.
750 and Supplement	Community transit – this describes the system as a whole.
750A	List of Community Transit Offices.
750B	Community transit – Extension to cover Austria and Switzerland.
751 and Supplement	Notes on completing Community transit forms T1, T2 and T3 and Control Copy T forms.
751A	Notes on completing Community transit movement certificates.
752	Free circulation of goods in the European Community.
753	Community transit – the simplified procedure for goods carried by rail.
754	Community transit – Intra-Community treatment of the catches of fishing vessels registered in Member States.
755	Community transit – special control procedures.
756	Instructions on the use of loading lists as the descriptive part of Community transit forms T1, T2 and T3.
757	Community transit – Pre-authenticated movement certificate Form T3L
774	Hydrocarbon Oils Customs Duties: Additions of *Ad Valorem* Protective Element.
800	EEC Common Agricultural Policy: Customs procedures in respect of export refunds and export licences.
810	EEC Preferences – Free Trade Agreement between the EEC and the EFTA countries.
810A	EEC Preferences – EFTA Countries. Simplification of the documentation system described in Notice 810. Introduction of universal form of movement certificate EUR 1.
811	EEC Preferences – Greece.
812	EEC Preferences – Turkey.
813, 813B	EEC Preferences – Israel.
817	EEC Preferences – Tunisia
818	EEC Preferences – Egypt.
819	EEC Preferences – Cyprus.
821	EEC Preferences – simplified procedure for sending evidence to EEC customers about the origin of goods.
830	Arrangements between Denmark and United Kingdom.

Technology News

Machine tool research – 'What's On'

Details of nearly 600 research projects currently in progress in the UK are given in a new Register of Research on Machine Tools and Production Engineering published by the Machine Tool Industry Research Association.

The last edition of this register, produced by the Department of Trade and Industry in 1972, was based on 1970 information and it has been felt for some time that an up-dated version was needed, not only to inform research workers and industry of current work but also to facilitate application of the results obtained. The present edition has been produced by MTIRA, at the invitation of the Department of Industry, to meet this need.

The Register includes descriptions of 596 research projects being undertaken by 92 British university research departments, polytechnics and industrial research organisations. Subjects covered range from properties, testing and treatment of materials, manufacturing processes, design and performance of machines, metrology and inspection to production planning and control. Although the layout of the Register is basically similar to that of previous editions additional information is given where possible on the total man-effort of the project, the duration and stage reached and the sources of support. Publications relevant to the project are also listed. Contributors to the Register were also asked whether any of the results which they had obtained from their projects were of direct industrial interest and this information has been incorporated in the description of the project.

Surprisingly, an analysis of the projects listed shows little change of emphasis in research topics since 1970. As before, work on numerical control, machine tool dynamics, grinding, forging and production control come high on the list with research on noise and group technology now receiving greater attention than before. However studies of the less academic but none the less important subjects of swarf removal, safety and protection and energy conservation are still being neglected by nearly all research establishments.

Copies of the Register can be obtained for £4 from MTIRA, Hulley Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 2NE (Tel: Macclesfield (0625) 25421). For further information contact Mr. N. Percival.

Part of a project being carried out at the Agricultural Research Council's laboratory at Letcombe, which will be able to give farmers all the information they need to obtain the correct land drainage for their particular crops and soil types. The crops are grown in exactly the same conditions as they are in the field, but at Letcombe any level of water table can be maintained for any length of time and at the end of the season yields can be compared (see below).

Patent licensing for the smaller firm

This new literature guide provides information on the many publications describing ideas, inventions and innovations all over the world which are available for licensing.

The guide will be particularly useful to the smaller company without a librarian or information officer or facilities for studying patent literature. From the publications listed products may be selected for exploitation which will complement an existing range of equipment, make use of spare production capacity or even suggest an entirely new line of development.

Full publication details are given of each item. In general, the periodicals provide the information about the opportunities and the books explain how to exploit them.

Some of the books may be out of print but all of the items listed may be consulted at the Holborn branch of the Science Reference Library at 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1AW. Many will also be available for loan from the British Library Lending Division, Boston Spa, Wetherby, West Yorkshire LS23 7BQ.

The guide is free and obtainable by post from the Bayswater branch of the SRL at 10 Porchester Gardens, Queensway, London W2 4DE or on personal request from either branch.

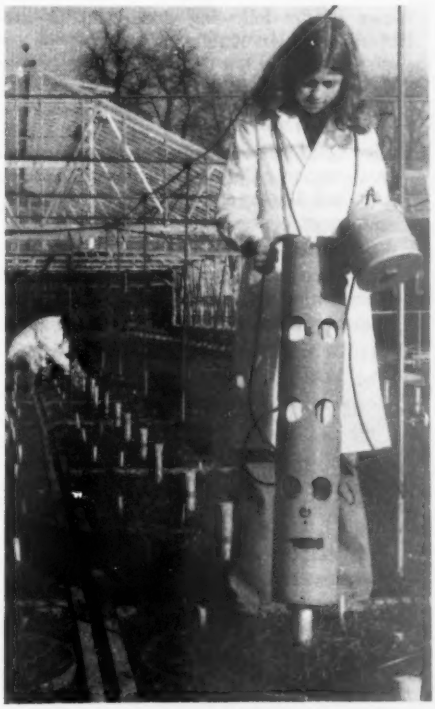
Learning to use computers

Teaching practical methods for using computers as engineering design aids is the object of a three-day course on computer aided design and manufacture to be held at the Department of Industry's National Engineering Laboratory, East Kilbride, Glasgow on Tuesday 17 February, Wednesday 18 February and Thursday 19 February 1976.

This introductory course is primarily for mechanical engineering designers and draughtsmen who need to learn practical methods for the use of computers as design aids. The emphasis is on use of computers to improve communication between design and production.

Low-cost graphic terminals and digitisers will be demonstrated. There will be practical sessions during which course members will be guided through a design project.

Further inquiries to Fergus Duncan, Conference Section, NEL, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QU (telephone East Kilbride 20222 ext. 547).



The special underground chamber which provides access to the instrumentation and allows the water levels to be regulated for the Letcombe project. Yields are compared by growing the plants in 64 individual soil cores contained in watertight shells so that each core can receive measured amounts of water, while rainfall is controlled by a well ventilated mobile greenhouse.

Parliament

Monday, 19 January

Department of Industry overseas staff

Mr. Max Madden (Sowerby) asked if the Department of Industry employs any representatives or staff outside the United Kingdom and at what total cost on an annual basis.

'The Department employs five staff overseas,' said Mr. Kaufman. 'Their total cost for the financial year 1974-75 was £37,811.'

Mr. Madden asked a similar question about the Department of Trade.

Mr. Deakins said: 'During 1974-75 11 members of my Department were employed overseas at a total cost of £62,916. One further overseas appointment has recently been made. In addition locally employed staff are engaged as necessary; during 1974-75 their number averaged 13 at a total cost of £40,167.'

Chrysler

Mr. John Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would place a copy of the heads of agreement with Chrysler in the library, together with a copy of the main agreement when it is signed.

'I have placed the Agreement together with copies of the following documents in the library', said Mr. Kaufman:

The Guarantee from the Secretary of State for Industry to the Midland Bank in respect of the £35 million loan.

The Deed of Indemnity between Chrysler Corporation, Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd. and the Secretary of State for Industry in respect of the guaranteed £35 million loan by the clearing banks.

The Deed of Guarantee between Chrysler Corporation and the Secretary of State for Industry in respect of the £28 million loan.

The Debenture for the £27 million loan.

The Deed of Waiver between Chrysler Corporation and Chrysler United Kingdom.

The letter dated 5 January from Mr. R. H. W. Bullock to Chrysler United Kingdom.

The 'facility letter' dated 5 January from the Midland Bank to Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd.

Mr. Adam Butler (Bosworth) referred to 'contrasting responses to the company's voluntary redundancy schemes, particularly at Linwood and Ryton, Coventry', and asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would immediately undertake further discussions with the Chrysler management with a view to continuing Avenger assembly at the Ryton plant; and seek other ways of transferring less work from Coventry to Scotland.

'No,' said Mr. Kaufman. 'The plans for Chrysler United Kingdom have been accepted in principle by the majority of the Chrysler workforce.'

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Gregor MacKenzie
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Lord Melchett
Neil Carmichael

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection:
Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

British Leyland

Mr. Tim Renton (Mid-Sussex) asked the Secretary of State for Industry: 'What consultations he is having with British Leyland regarding their next draw-down of public money?'

Mr. Kaufman answered: 'My Rt. Hon. Friend is kept informed by the NEB of British Leyland's general financial position. The Ryder report recommended that the review of BL's position and progress prior to the first tranche of long-term loan finance should take place in mid-1976.'

Industrial Re-organisation Corporation

Mr. John Stanley asked what shares were held by the Industrial Reorganisation Corporation; to whom they were subsequently sold; and on what dates.

Mr. Kaufman gave the following list of Equity and Preference Shares acquired by the IRC and their subsequent disposal:

Equity and Preference Shares held	Disposal	Date
The Hoffman Manufacturing Co. Ltd. (Note 1)	Ransome and Marles Bearing Co.	May 1969
4,800,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p		
The Nuclear Power Group Ltd.	Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons Ltd. and Head Wrightson and Co. Ltd.	March 1971
150,000 Ordinary Shares of £1		
Ransome Hoffman Pollard Ltd.	Institutional investors	August 1971
155,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p		
The Laird Group	Securities Agencies Ltd.	November 1971
4,900,830 Ordinary Shares of 25p		
Ransome Hoffman Pollard Ltd. (Note 1)	Institutional investors	December 1971
1,200,000 Deferred Ordinary Shares of 25p		
Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd.	Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd.	January 1972
7,561,140 7% Cumulative Preferred Ordinary Shares of 20p		
Herbert Ingersoll Ltd.		
38,250 'A' Ordinary Shares of 50p	Alfred Herbert Ltd.	March 1973
36,750 'B' Ordinary Shares of 50p	Ingersoll Milling Machine Co.	July 1973
Brown Bayley Steels Ltd. (Note 1)	Dunford and Elliott Ltd.	December 1973
2,404,000 Ordinary Shares of 50p		
Kearney and Trecker Ltd.	Kearney and Trecker Marwin Ltd. (Note 2)	August 1974
300,000 Redeemable Convertible Third Preference Shares of £1		
George Kent Ltd.	Brown Boveri Ltd.	December 1974
4,261,757 Ordinary Shares of 50p		
British Nuclear Design and Construction Ltd.	National Nuclear Corporation Ltd.	March 1975
260,000 Ordinary Shares of £1		
Saxondale Motors Ltd. (Note 3) (formerly Brown Bayley Ltd.)	Members Voluntary Liquidation	June 1975
2,400,000 Ordinary Shares of £1		
Nuclear Enterprises Ltd.	Still held by Department of Industry	
7,353 'B' Ordinary Shares of £1		

Notes:
1 Investments held by Brown Bayley Ltd.
2 65,000 shares were redeemed by Kearney and Trecker Marwin Ltd. The balance is still held by the Department of Industry.
3 Name changed on 17 May 1974.

British aircraft industry

Mr. Stan Thorne (Preston South) asked when the Secretary of State for Industry expects to meet the Confederation and Shipbuilding Engineering Unions for further talks involving the future of the British aircraft industry.

Mr. Kaufman said: 'I have been in touch with the CSEU and offered to meet the Confederation as soon as it can be arranged.'

Investment in the engineering industry

Mr. John Biffen (Oswestry) asked what recent discussions have been held with representatives of employers and trade unions concerning the prospective level of investment in the engineering industry.

Mr. Kaufman answered: 'Investment has been discussed with representatives of both sides of industry at recent meetings of the NEDC and its subsidiary Committees. The need to increase its level in engineering and other industries is widely recognised. The Government has already introduced a number of schemes to encourage this and further measures are being considered.'

Automation

Mr. Gwilymn Roberts (Cannock) asked if steps would be taken to provide selective incentives to encourage automation as a means of improving productivity in manufacturing and other industries.

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'Investment expenditure by industry, covering inter alia measures of automation, already qualifies for tax relief and other appropriate incentives. Automation systems and projects involving automation would also be considered under the Industry Act scheme announced in the Budget last April, and since extended, for the acceleration of investment projects. In addition selective assistance under the Science and Technology Act is given to the automation industry by means of shared cost development contracts and pre-production orders.'

Financial aid to companies

Mr. Michael Marshall (Arundel) asked what was the total amount of financial aid paid to companies by the Department of Industry for the last available 12 months.

Mr. MacKenzie said: '£761 million in the 12 months to 30 November 1975. This represents the gross total expenditure by the Department of Industry under the regional support and general support to industry programmes, plus assistance to Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd., but less the refinancing of home shipbuilding lending and certain other services not involving direct aid to individual companies. It includes the purchase of shares in British Leyland.'

Mr. John Moore (Croydon Central) asked for a list of the assistance granted to special schemes under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 since April 1975.

Mr. Carmichael replied that the following expenditure had been allocated for special schemes under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972:

	£ million
Wool Textile Scheme*	3
Ferrous Foundry Scheme	25
Machine Tool Industry Scheme	20
Clothing Scheme	20
Deferred projects, divided between:	
New Investment	100
Modernisation	20
Total	188

* This is additional to the sum of £15 million which was allocated on 19 July 1973.

'Payments and commitments do not arise until individual proposals have been approved and offers accepted,' said Mr. Carmichael.

Mrs. Winifred Ewing (Moray and Nairn) asked: 'In the case of companies which have received a contribution from Government funds, what detailed information is sought by the Government as of right and at what intervals, as to: (a) monthly cash flow statements, (b) quarterly and six monthly profit and loss statements, and (c) annual reports and accounts?'

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'Procedures have been evolved to enable appropriate scrutiny to be exercised over the proper application of financial assistance under the Industry Act 1972. These include conditions about payment of assistance and access to the necessary information. The type and frequency of the information required depends on the amount and form of assistance, taking account also of the degree of risk involved.'

British Steel Corporation

Mr. Peter Rost (South East Derbyshire) asked for a statement on the investment and rationalisation programme of the British Steel Corporation.

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'The British Steel Corporation expect to spend over £500 million in the current financial year on their capital investment programme, a record figure, and substantially more in 1976-77. Government decisions on most of the plant closures proposed by BSC in their related rationalisation programme have already been announced to the House on 4 February and 6 August of last year. My Rt. Hon. Friend hopes to be in a position to make a statement on the outstanding issues in the near future.'

Post Office Review Committee

Mr. Michael Marshall (Arundel) asked what criteria were used in the selection of the members of the Post Office Review Committee.

'I have sought to appoint a committee of individuals whose combined experience and expertise make it capable of a dispassionate appraisal and evaluation of the issues covered by the terms of reference,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'No member of the team is regarded as representative of any specific interest: That is a role appropriate to witnesses.'

Sub-post offices

Mr. Ted Graham (Enfield, Edmonton) wanted to know the number of sub-post offices closed in Great Britain for the years 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975.

Mr. MacKenzie referred him to the figures published annually in the Post Office's Report and Accounts, showing a net decline in the number of sub-post offices under its control as follows:

1971/72	127
1972/73	162
1973/74	234*
1974/75	216

* This includes 38 sub-post offices transferred to the Isle of Man Administration.

Food subsidies

Mr. James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull West) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what plans she has for changes in food subsidies.

Mrs. Williams replied: 'Expenditure on food subsidies during 1975/76 has continued to be greater than forecast, due to rather higher levels of consumption. I have therefore decided, in order to hold down the level of expenditure, to reduce the cheese subsidy from £188 per ton to £157 per ton with effect from Sunday, 25 January. The reduction is equivalent to about 2p per lb at the retail level and is estimated to save £2 million in the current financial year.

'I will be reviewing the rate of the butter subsidy in the light of negotiations in Brussels about CAP prices and subsidies for 1976-77, but I have no plans for other reductions in food subsidies before the end of July 1976.'

Airport duty free shops

Mr. Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection is satisfied that the prices charged at the duty free shops at Heathrow Airport for liquor are in the consumer's interest.

'The British Airports Authority's last Annual Report makes the point that these prices compare favourably with those at most world airports,' said Mr. Maclennan. 'Airport users also benefit from the airport facilities which revenue from these sales helps to finance, and the economy benefits from the foreign currencies earnings they yield.'

Potato prices

Mr. Bob Cryer (Keighley) asked what representations have been made by fish friers associations regarding potato prices during the past three months.

'I have received one letter from a fish fryers' association about the price of potatoes,' said Mrs. Williams. 'I also understand that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food have received several letters on this subject.'

Sale of fireworks

Mr. Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection would take steps to restrict the sale of fireworks to designated organisations for a limited period before 5 November.

Mr. Williams replied: 'Following the review of firework safety which I undertook last year I announced on 25 November, in reply to a Question by my Hon. Friend the Member for Cannock, that the existing controls over fireworks were to be strengthened. One of the measures being taken by voluntary agreement with the trade is to restrict to three weeks immediately before 5 November the period during which fireworks will be on general sale to the public. This is in addition to the manufacturers' agreement to halve their banger production over the next two years and to box most fireworks except bangers within the same period. The Government supports legislation which will raise the minimum age of sale of fireworks from 13 to 16 years.'

Skytrain

Mr. W. E. Garrett (Wallsend) asked the Secretary of State for Trade for a statement on his policy in the light of the findings of the Market and Opinion

Letters to the Editor

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Parliament continued

Research International surveys of April and October 1975, showing that consumers of the low-cost Skytrain service would be a different market from normal scheduled line users and therefore not competitive with British Airways.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'My Rt. Hon. Friend pointed out in his policy statement on 29 July 1975, that Skytrain would divert traffic away from the existing services and in particular damage British Airways. This was amplified in my reply to the Debate on 31 July. Nothing in the surveys to which my Hon. Friend refers justifies a change in that view, and I believe that the needs of the great majority of the public are met by the range of low-cost fares already available on scheduled and non-scheduled services to New York.'

Peter Shore's visit to India

Mr. Eldon Griffiths (Bury St. Edmunds) asked the Secretary of State for Trade for a statement on his recent visit to New Delhi.

Mr. Shore said: 'I visited New Delhi and Calcutta at the invitation of the Government of India from 4 to 9 January 1976. I met the Prime Minister and other Indian Ministers, as well as a large number of Indian and British businessmen. I signed an exchange of letters with the Indian Minister of Commerce establishing an Indo-British Economic Committee to promote the further development of economic and commercial relations between our two countries. I also discussed with the Indian Government many aspects of the general relations between our two countries including matters connected with our trade, investment, aviation and shipping services.'

Trade with Nigeria

Mr. John H. Cordle (Bournemouth East) inquired about the present total annual value of UK exports to Nigeria, showing the proportions attributable to different types of goods and/or services so far as practicable; and the comparable figure for each of the last five years, and the same information in respect of Nigerian imports.

Mr. Deakins gave the following information for trade in goods. Figures of trade in services are not compiled for individual countries.

Mr. Cordle also asked for an estimate of the value of UK investment in Nigeria, indicating, so far as is practicable, the proportions related to the various industries and to commerce; and for the comparable figures for each of the last five years.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'The information available relates to the book value of direct investment excluding oil, banking and insurance. The latest figure relates to the end of 1971 when the total was £155.6 million. This figure and totals for the seven preceding years were published in Table 35 of Business Monitor M 4 Part II, 1972, Overseas Transactions, a copy of which is in the library. The information available on investment in individual industries at the end of 1971 is given below.'

	Percentage of total direct investment at book values
Food, drink and tobacco	13.1
Chemicals and allied industries	11.8
Mechanical and instrument engineering	1.4
Textile, leather, clothing and footwear	3.7
Paper, printing and publishing	1.8
Other manufacture	9.4
Construction	1.6
Distributive trades	42.3
Other industries	14.9
Total (excluding oil, banking and insurance)	100.0

Figures for subsequent net flows of investment in 1972 and 1973 were published in Table 17 of Business Monitor M 4 Overseas.

Aircraft noise

Mr. Ronald Bell (Beaconsfield) asked if a deadline has been established for compliance by the UK with the noise regulations relating to conventional aircraft of the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'The United Kingdom is already complying with the existing ICAO noise standards for conventional aircraft. The proposed tightening of these standards is still under consideration by Member States and no date has yet been agreed for the application of the proposed new standards.'

Mr. Bell also asked if it is official policy to require the fitting of hush-kits to all BAC 1-11 and Trident aircraft; and whether production versions of these kits are actually available now for installation.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The older types of jet aircraft now in service, such as the Trident and BAC 1-11, are at present exempt from the provisions of the United Kingdom Air Navigation (Noise Certification) Order 1970, although any new production of these aircraft after 1 January 1976, if they use United Kingdom airports, will also be required to meet the noise regulations. I am at present considering the complex question of retrofitting the older types of aircraft now in service.

'Production versions of hush-kits for the BAC 1-11 would be available if ordered but there are no production versions of a Trident hush-kit.'

Tuesday, 20 January

ECGD and trade with Japan

Mr. Ian Mikardo (Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow) asked: 'Why in view of the fact that it is possible for a Japanese company to obtain unconditional ECGD-covered financing for sales in third countries, similar facilities are provided in Japan for a British company only on condition that it will work with a Japanese company; and whether the Secretary of State for Trade will instruct ECGD to ensure reciprocity by covering finance for Japanese companies only on the same conditions as Japanese export credit is available to British companies?'

Mr. Deakins said: 'As is laid down in the Export Guarantees Act 1975, ECGD facilities are available to or for the benefit of persons carrying on business in the UK. This includes the operations from the UK of overseas companies. ECGD cover is of course mainly provided for UK goods and services.

'We are making further inquiries into Japanese practices but my present understanding is that the facilities available in Japan for UK companies carrying on business there are broadly similar.'

Companies acquired by Department of Industry

Mr. John Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many people were employed by: (a) Appledore Shipbuilders Ltd., (b) British Leyland Ltd., (c) Ferranti Ltd., (d) Govan Shipbuilders Ltd., (e) KTM Machine Tools (Holdings) Ltd., (f) Marathon Shipbuilding Co. (UK) Ltd., (g) North East Coast Ship Repairers Ltd., (h) Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd., (i) SB (Realisations) Ltd., (j) Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd., and (k) Triang Pedigree Ltd., at the time when the companies' shares were first acquired by the Department of Industry; and how many are employed now.

Mr. Kaufman gave the following figures: (See table on facing page.)

SITC(R) Section		Exports (fob) 1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	12 months ending November 1975	Imports (cif) 1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	12 months ending November 1975
	Total (£ million)	114.3	165.0	153.9	172.6	222.3	490.3	124.0	139.5	155.5	207.1	367.7	303.2
	Of which percentage share:												
0	Food and live animals	3.3	3.7	3.8	4.6	5.2	5.2	24.5	16.1	13.6	15.8	7.6	10.2
1	Beverages and tobacco	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	2.1	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.2	9.6	7.6	5.2	9.0	6.0	5.6
3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.2	43.1	59.6	66.1	57.0	76.6	76.7
4	Animal and vegetable oils and fats	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	12.7	8.2	6.3	8.9	5.4	2.8
5	Chemicals	17.4	16.8	14.3	15.9	18.5	14.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	22.6	20.8	20.4	20.5	22.0	21.7	9.4	7.6	6.8	7.1	3.6	3.4
7	Machinery and transport equipment	43.1	46.9	44.8	44.9	40.9	42.7	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.4	0.6	0.8
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles not elsewhere specified	6.7	7.5	9.4	10.1	9.2	11.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
9	Commodities and transactions not classified according to kind	3.5	1.5	4.6	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.2

Company	Number employed when Government first took shares	Number employed now (most up-to-date available figures)
Appledore Shipbuilders Ltd.	(30 Sept. 1974) 1,430	(31 Dec. 1975) 1,340
British Leyland Ltd.	(11 Aug. 1975) 184,000 (155,000 in UK)	(31 Dec. 1975) 179,700 (151,500 in UK)
Ferranti Ltd.	(31 Aug. 1975) 15,700	(31 Dec. 1975) 15,390
Govan Shipbuilders Ltd.	(30 Sept. 1972) 4,470	(31 Dec. 1975) 5,810
Marathon Shipbuilding Co. (UK) Ltd.	(10 Jan. 1975) 1,900	(9 Jan. 1976) 1,750
North East Coast Ship Repairers Ltd.	(19 Sept. 1974) 2,960	(30 Nov. 1975) 2,890
Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd.	(1 Mar. 1971) 63,000	(14 Jan. 1976) 60,000
Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd.	(30 Sept. 1974) 6,090	(30 Nov. 1975) 6,560
Triang Pedigree Ltd.	(1 June 1975) 380	(31 Dec. 1975) 470

KTM Machine Tools (Holdings) Ltd. and SB (Realisations) Ltd. are both holding companies and have no employees.

Mr. Stanley also asked for details of profits or losses in each of the last four six-monthly periods for which figures are available of the companies mentioned.

Mr. Kaufman said that six monthly audited figures were not available for many of these companies, but gave the available figures as follows:

Company	Period covered by account	Profit/loss (before taxation)
Appledore Shipbuilders Ltd.	1 Oct. 1972-30 Sept. 1973	1,439,838 (profit)
	1 Oct. 1973-30 Sept. 1974	378,551 (profit)
Ferranti Group	1 Apr. 1973-31 Mar. 1974	457,000 (profit)
	1 Apr. 1974-31 Mar. 1975	84,000 (profit)
Govan Shipbuilders Ltd.	28 Dec. 1972-28 Dec. 1973	2,204,000 (loss)
	29 Dec. 1973-28 Dec. 1974	5,317,000 (loss)
KTM Machine Tools (Holdings) Ltd.	1 Aug. 1974-29 Dec. 1974	3,617,782 (loss)
Marathon Shipbuilding Co. (UK) Ltd.	29 Dec. 1972-28 Dec. 1973	1,310,609 (loss)
	29 Dec. 1973-31 Dec. 1974	1,617,068 (loss)
North East Coast Ship Repairers Ltd.	1 Oct. 1972-30 Sept. 1973	719,000 (profit)
	1 Oct. 1973-31 Mar. 1974	604,000 (profit)
	1 Apr. 1974-30 Sept. 1974	467,000 (profit)
Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd.	1 Jan. 1973-31 Dec. 1973	26,500,000 (profit)
	1 Jan. 1974-31 Dec. 1974	16,700,000 (profit)
Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd.	1 Oct. 1973-30 Sept. 1974	6,439,000 (loss)
	1 Oct. 1974-30 Sept. 1975	1,823,000 (profit)
Triang Pedigree Ltd.	1 Jan. 1974-31 Jun. 1974	392,000 (loss)
	1 Jul. 1974-31 Dec. 1974	355,000 (loss)
	1 Jan. 1975-31 Jun. 1975	475,000 (loss)
	1 Jul. 1975-31 Dec. 1975	548,000 (loss)

Figures for Ferranti Ltd. are not available.
SB (Realisations) Ltd. is a holding company which exists to hold 69½ per cent of the shares – Short Bros. and Harland Ltd; as such it does not engage in trading.

Advance factories

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked for the total number of advance factories built in the UK and in Wales, respectively, since 1964; and how many jobs these have created.

Mr. MacKenzie gave the following information:

	Built since 1 Jan. 1965	Present floor area (million sq. ft)	Numbers employed
United Kingdom	530	14.8	33,400
Wales	83	2.5	5,500

Norton Villiers Triumph

Mr. J. W. Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr) asked what further assistance has been made available to Norton Villiers Triumph Ltd.

Mr. Varley answered: 'The Government is taking part in a scheme for the orderly run-down of activities at the Birmingham factory of Norton Villiers Triumph and for the continuation of a limited range of manufacturing activities at an adjacent factory.

'Two new subsidiaries of NVT have been created, the first, NVT Engineering Ltd., to continue with certain engineering sub-contract work previously carried out at the Birmingham factory and to make motor cycle parts. Except for the completion of existing motor cycle work-in-progress at the Birmingham factory it will not make complete motor cycles. The second, NVT Motor Cycles Ltd. will inter alia have a marketing role.

'Assistance has been provided in the form of a loan of £275,000 to NVT Engineering Ltd., at commercial rates of interest and to be repaid in equal tranches on 31 December of each of the years 1978, 1979 and 1980. Barclays Bank Ltd. are also supporting the scheme by providing an overdraft facility to NVT Engineering Ltd. equal to the Government loan.

'To enable the existing motor cycle work-in-progress to be completed and disposed of the Government has also guaranteed bank loans to NVT Motor Cycles Ltd. of up to £500,000.

'The loan and guarantee are secured by first fixed and floating charges on assets of the two new subsidiary companies, held in the case of the charge on NVT Engineering Ltd. pari passu with Barclays Bank.

'This assistance is being provided under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 within the authority of the Resolution approved by the House of 5 March 1975. The maximum cover available to NVT under the £8 million export credit guarantee facility previously given under the terms of that Resolution has been reduced accordingly.

'The Government is taking part in this scheme because the new subsidiaries will provide backing to enable stocks of motor cycles held overseas and exported under the Government export credit facility to be disposed of in an orderly fashion so as to reduce the Government's contingent liability under that facility. No further exports will be made under that facility. NVT Engineering Ltd. will employ approximately 300.'

Lawyers' fees

Mr. Bob Cryer (Keighley) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection to make a statement on the method she is using to ensure that barristers and solicitors do not exceed the £6 weekly limit in fees received for criminal and civil cases.

Mr. Williams replied: 'Paragraph 11 of the White Paper – 'The Attack on Inflation' – (Cmnd. 6151) made it clear that the charges and profits of the self-employed (which includes barristers and solicitors) would continue to be subject to the Price Code. Accordingly their fees may only be increased to reflect increases in allowable costs within the meaning of the Code.'

Wednesday, 21 January

Selective Price Restraint Scheme

Mr. John Cartwright (Greenwich, Woolwich East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection for a progress report on the Selective Price Restraint Scheme.

Mrs. Williams said: 'Over recent months, I have been holding discussions with representives of the CBI, the Retail Consortium and other interested organisations about the possibility of introducing a Selective Price Restraint Scheme. I am glad to say that these discussions have progressed well. The CBI have accepted the Scheme subject to its acceptance also by the Retail Consortium. One or two points remain to be agreed with the Retail Consortium but I am hopeful that these will be resolved shortly.

'When agreement is reached individual trade associations in the manufacturing sector will be approaching their members. They will recommend them to participate in the Scheme in respect of those items of their production on which it is expected, following preliminary discussions, that they will be able to restrain price increases during the period 1 February-31 July inclusive to a maximum of 5 per cent. It will not be possible to announce the coverage of the Scheme until this process has been completed but I hope to be in a position to do so in the near future so that the Scheme can come into effect at the retail level in mid-February. Present indications are that a significant proportion of household expenditure will be subject to price restraint.

'I shall make a further statement to the House as soon as possible.'

Out-of-town shopping centres

Mr. John Pardoe (North Cornwall) asked for an estimate of the effect on retail prices in those areas where out of town shopping centres have been allowed to develop.

Mr. Maclennan answered that although there are no generally accepted statistics on this subject, available indications suggest that

in hypermarkets, including out of town hypermarkets, food prices can be on average some 7 per cent lower than prices in other retail outlets. Mr. Maclennan said that there is no evidence on whether the presence of a hypermarket in an area tends to lower the prices charged by competing food outlets. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has commissioned research into hypermarket food prices, and this is still in progress.

Sale of mixed drinks on licensed premises

Mr. Cyril Smith (Rochdale) asked if steps would be taken to ensure that the proprietors of licensed premises do not make excess profits from the sale of mixed drinks.

Mr. Williams answered: 'The Price Code provides that prices in licensed premises may generally be increased only in line with increases in costs. In addition the Code imposes a limit on the overall profit that the business can make. If the Hon. Member has any evidence of apparent breaches of the Price Code I shall be glad to ask the Price Commission to look into them.'

Mr. Doug Hoyle (Nelson and Colne) asked for evidence of overcharging for soft drinks in public houses, what action is contemplated to restrict prices charged and what gross and net profit margins are allowed under the Price Code for soft drinks sold in public houses.

'The profit margins allowed under the Price Code in public houses relate to the enterprise as a whole, not to individual drinks or categories of drinks,' said Mr. Williams. 'The controls in the Price Code also provide that prices in this sector may be increased only in line with increased costs. I have no evidence that these provisions are being infringed by overcharging but I should be glad to ask the Price Commission to look into any alleged breaches if my Hon. Friend would let me have details.'

Information staff in Department of Trade

Mr. Ian Wrigglesworth (Teesside, Thornaby) asked for details of the numbers and salaries of the extra public relations and information officers recruited by the Department of Trade and agencies between 1970-71 and 1974-75.

Mr. Shore replied: 'It is not possible to make this comparison for the Department of Trade since 1974-75 was the first year of its existence. Between 1970-71 and 1974-75 the Export Credits Guarantee Department appointed one additional Senior Information Officer (current salary scale £4,900-£5,900 plus £465 London Weighting) and relinquished one Information Officer (current salary scale £3,900-£4,700 plus £465 London Weighting).'

East London docks

Mr. Nigel Spearing (Newham South) asked for an estimate made of the likely effects on regional industrial policy and regional employment policy of permitting the GLC and London Boroughs or the Dockland Joint Committee to expend public money informing industry of the facilities within the dockland statutory area in East London.

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'The likely effects on regional industrial policy of removing the prohibition on publicising the commercial and industrial advantages of any part of London, including the London docklands area, will be among the factors to be considered by the Departments concerned when the GLC's intentions regarding legislation on this subject are received.'

Chrysler (UK)

Mr. John Lee (Birmingham, Handsworth) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to ensure that the agreement between Her Majesty's Government and Chrysler International governing the provision of financial assistance for Chrysler (UK) is legally binding, and that the contract incorporating that agreement is governed by English law.

'The formal Agreement entered into on 5 January between the Government, Chrysler (UK) Ltd. and Chrysler Corporation is legally binding and is governed by English law,' said Mr. Kaufman.

Marathon

Mr. Teddy Taylor (Glasgow, Cathcart) asked for a statement on the position of the Marathon Co. in Scotland.

'The Department is in close touch with the company about its position, including its search for new orders,' said Mr. Kaufman.

British Steel Corporation

Mr. John Biffen (Oswestry) asked for a statement on the prospects for output, investment and employment in the British Steel Corporation.

Mr. Kaufman said: 'The Corporation's output, now some 350,000 tonnes/week of liquid steel, is likely to remain constrained by a low level of demand during 1976. The Corporation's investment programme is running at about £500 million this year and will reach new record levels in subsequent years. This will help provide security of employment for the great majority of those engaged in the industry. There is, however, a measure of over-manning and a need for cost-savings which must successfully be dealt with by the management and the trade unions if the Corporation and its workforce are to have an assured future.'

Thursday, 22 January

Japanese steel

Mr. Michael Marshall (Arundel) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would request the EEC Commission to include in their discussions with Japan, regarding voluntary restraint on that country's steel sales to Europe, the consideration that such restraint has not covered the sales of special steels by medium and smaller Japanese producers.

'This matter is being urgently considered with the representatives of the industry most affected,' said Mr. Kaufman.

Mr. Marshall also asked for an assurance from the Secretary of State for Trade that he would take action against any proved instances of dumping by Japanese special steels producers, notwithstanding any potential or actual arrangements for restraint by major Japanese producers of bulk steel.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'Before taking anti-dumping action the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act 1969 requires my Rt. Hon. Friend to be satisfied that having regard to all the circumstances such action is in the national interest. He could not therefore undertake in advance to disregard international agreements affecting the product in question or related products.'

Mr. Marshall wanted to know the present position with regard to the anti-dumping application submitted by UK special steels producers regarding imports of stainless steel bars from Japan.

'The application is a complex one,' said Mr. Deakins. 'My officials are studying it carefully and are in close touch with the applicants.'

Statistical inquiries

Mr. Nicholas Fairbairn (Kinross and West Perthshire) asked how many forms for completion requiring or requesting information have been sent to each section of industry by each department of state in the year June 1974 to June 1975.

Mr. Carmichael replied: 'In this 12 month period, 520,000 statistical forms were sent by the Department to firms in the manufacturing, construction and mining and quarrying industries; and some 260,000 to firms in the distributive and service trades.

'The Survey Control Unit of the Central Statistical Office estimates that the number of statistical forms sent to businesses by other Government Departments was of the order of 2½ million. This included 500,000 forms sent out in the annual Census of Employment, 200,000 in monthly or quarterly employment inquiries, and 300,000 in the New Earnings Survey or other, shorter period, earnings inquiries – all by the Department of Employment. The figures also included 600,000 forms sent to farmers by the Agricultural Departments.'

Mr. Roger Moate (Faversham) asked how many businesses would be approached in connection with the statistical inquiry into retail trading to be held for 1976 and 1977. He also asked for the estimated cost of conducting the inquiry; its object; for what purpose the information will be used; and what Government policies are dependent upon such information.

Mr. Deakins said: 'The retailing inquiry for 1976, to be taken in 1977, will be restricted to a sample of 30,000 out of the 300,000 retailing businesses within the scope of the inquiry. The Business Statistics Office has estimated their costs in holding and processing the inquiry as £400,000 at current costings. The aim of the inquiry for 1976 is to provide reliable and timely statistics of retailing and to provide information needed for the national accounts and for monitoring developments in the economy, in particular on retail sales, capital expenditure and stocks. The information to be collected on credit will be used as a basis for monitoring changes in the pattern of credit trading arising from the new Consumer Credit Act. No firm decisions have yet been taken about the form of the 1977 inquiry, to be taken in 1978.'

EEC Regional Development Fund

Information was requested by Mr. Alec Woodall (Hemsworth) on the total amount of the second allocation grant to the UK from the EEC; to which regions the grants are going; and the approximate amounts to each town within the regions.

Mr. MacKenzie answered that in its

second round of allocations from the Regional Development Fund, the EEC Commission approved contributions totalling £27 million towards the cost of 298 projects in the UK. The number of projects in each region and the Fund allocation was:

	No. of projects	Fund allocation
		£
England		
Northern Region	55	5,728,372
North West Region	38	1,973,686
Yorkshire and Humberside Region	23	401,910
East Midlands	5	51,750
West Midlands	1	11,100
South West Region	20	479,675
Northern Ireland	8	6,557,794
Scotland	72	8,147,533
Wales	76	3,709,499
	298	27,061,319

(Details of the projects were published in *Trade and Industry* of 2 January, page 34.)

Irlam Steel Works

Mr. John Evans (Newton) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would use the provisions of the Community Land Bill to purchase land at Irlam Steel Works from the British Steel Works to build an advance factory.

'No Sir,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'Negotiations for an alternative site are well advanced.'

Mr. Evans asked: 'If moneys allocated from the EEC Regional Development Fund to build an advance factory at Irlam Steel Works site, are in any way endangered because of the delay in purchasing the land from the British Steel Corporation?'

'No,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'The Regional Development Fund money allocated to this project by the Commission will be claimed as expenditure on the factory is incurred by the Department.'

Mr. Evans then asked how many advance factories were planned for Irlam and Cadishead; why there was a delay in constructing the advance factory on the old Irlam Steel Works site; when the original decision was taken to build an advance factory on the site; when the Secretary of State for Industry expected to agree a price with BSC for the land at Irlam Steel Works and how long negotiations between the Department of Industry and the BSC about this land have been in progress.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'Two advance factories have been authorised for the Irlam area, the first in January 1973 and the second in November 1975. There was initial difficulty in finding a suitable site for the earlier factory but one was eventually selected on land belonging to the British Steel Corporation. Thereafter it proved difficult to reach agreement with the agents of the British Steel Corporation on the terms of sale, and then in November 1975 negotiations were initiated with the owners of an alternative site. These negotiations, which are now in the hands of the District Valuer, are well advanced and if concluded successfully, building will be able to start in the later part of the current year.'

Mr. Evans also asked what offers of legal assistance the Department of Industry received from Salford City Council to purchase land at Irlam Steel Works from the BSC to build an advance factory; and on what grounds the offer was refused.

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'Early in December the Council offered to negotiate the purchase and then convey ownership to the Department. While appreciating the spirit in which this offer was made, the Department concluded that on grounds both of cost and of speed it was preferable to proceed with the purchase of the alternative site which had by that time been initiated.'

Local price surveys

Mr. John Cartwright (Greenwich, Woolwich East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what evidence she has received of retailers refusing to co-operate with local price comparison surveys authorised by her Department.

'I know there have been instances of individual retailers declining to participate in local price comparison surveys,' answered Mr. Maclennan. 'I am glad to say that these have been infrequent and in such cases it has usually been possible to substitute alternatives.'

Subsidised foods

Mr. Neil Marten (Banbury) asked for a list of all foodstuffs at present receiving a subsidy, showing how much the subsidy is and what part of it is from the EEC.

Mr. Maclennan gave the following information:

	Approximate value at retail level
Milk	2p per pint
Bread	2p per large loaf
Butter	11p per lb (of which the EEC contributed approximately 17 per cent)
Cheese*	12p per lb
Tea	8p per lb
Household flour	3p per 3 lb bag

* The cheese subsidy will be reduced by about 2p per lb at retail level on 25 January 1976.

Russian factory inspectors

Mr. Churchill (Stretford) asked: 'What is the purpose of Her Majesty's Government admitting Russian officials to the United Kingdom in the capacity of factory inspectors; and what reciprocal arrangements have been made for British factory inspectors to operate within the USSR?'

Mr. Deakins said: 'It is normal practice in the fulfilment of Anglo Soviet commercial contracts for Soviet inspectors to be attached to British factories to progress the contract and to ensure that equipment meets the contract specification. British engineers and technicians are customarily attached to Soviet factories and plants, with equipment exported from the UK, to assist with their commissioning.'

Friday, 23 January

Price stabilisation scheme for tungsten

Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked what attitude the Government is taking about the formation of a price stabilisation scheme for tungsten basic ores and concentrates.

Mr. Kaufman answered: 'The Government's attitude towards possible measures to stabilise prices of commodities was explained by my Rt. Hon. Friend the Prime Minister in his speech at Kingston on 1 May 1975, and subsequently in the White Paper "World Economic Interdependence and Trade in Commodities" (Cmnd. 6061). The United Kingdom is participating in current discussions within UNCTAD about possible measures to stabilise the price of tungsten-containing materials.' Mr. Kaufman went on to say that a working document was submitted by the UK delegation to the Working Party of the UNCTAD Committee on Tungsten, to assist discussion of the practical issues involved. The document contained no policy statement or conclusions and was not intended for publication. It would not, therefore, be appropriate to place it in the Library.

Television sets

Mr. Peter Viggers (Gosport) asked for the best estimate of UK production capacity for colour television sets and monochrome television sets.

Mr. Kaufman answered: 'Since 1973 when production of colour TV sets was 2.1 million subsequent investment has raised productive capacity. For monochrome sets, table and portable types present different trends. Capacity is well above the very reduced production of 200,000 table sets in 1975. Demand for portables however has been rising and UK annual production reached 320,000 in 1974 and 1975. I regret that more precise estimates are not available.'

Capital investment by nationalised industries

Mr. John Moore (Croydon Central) asked: 'How much capital investment has been undertaken by the following in each year from 1960 up to and including 1975, viz., British Steel, British Gas Corporation, the Electricity Council, National Coal Board and the Post Office?'

Mr. Kaufman answered: 'Questions on the National Gas Board, the National Electricity Council and the National Coal Board are the responsibility of my Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Energy. Of the corporations for which my Rt. Hon. Friend is responsible, the British Steel Corporation was set up in 1967. The most appropriate figures for capital investment by the British Steel Corporation and the Post Office are given below.'

£ million

Financial Year	British Steel Corporation	Post Office
1959/60	—	100.1
1960/61	—	105.2
1961/62	—	124.6
1962/63	—	131.1
1963/64	—	163.8
1964/65	—	187.3
1965/66	—	209.7
1966/67	—	266.0
1967/68	73	318.3
1968/69	74	354.3
1969/70	39*	393.1
1970/71	143	459.8
1971/72	237	541.1
1972/73	198	645.9
1973/74	187	723.2
1974/75	311	826.4

* Six months due to change of financial year.

Business statistics

Mr. Wyn Roberts (Conway) asked if forms WR 61(B) and CT 62 issued by the Business Statistics Office in Cardiff in connection with the inquiry into Retail Trading for 1976 have been sent to every retailer or selected retailers in Wales and the UK.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'Forms WR 61(B) and CT 62 relating to the commodity analysis of turnover and to credit trading, respectively, issued by the Business Statistics Office, Newport, were sent to a sample of about 12,000 retail organisations in Great Britain with an annual turnover of between £50,000 and £250,000. Retail organisations in Wales were included in the population from which the sample was selected.'

Trade Information

Australia to adopt a new system of customs valuation

The Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs in Australia has announced that the Government has decided to introduce a new system of valuing imports for customs duty purposes.

The existing basis on which imported goods are valued for duty purposes, is the free on board selling price or, if higher, the domestic selling price of the goods in the country of export. The new system based on the internationally recognised Brussels Definition of Values will be introduced as soon as possible after the amending legislation has been passed by Parliament.

The Minister said that the Brussels Definition of Value rests on the basis that goods would be valued for duty on the price that those goods would fetch on a sale in the open market between a buyer and a seller independent of each other. The definition will be applied on a Free on Board (fob) basis.

The Government's decision is a result of extensive investigation by an inter-departmental committee and public response to a Green Paper on the subject which was published last February.

The Brussels Definition of Value, as a method of valuing goods for customs purposes is well understood internationally and is used by most of Australia's major trading partners. Steps will be taken to ensure that adoption of the new valuation system will not significantly affect the level of protection now given to Australian industry. Ref. CRE 41544. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Oman: No Objection Certificates

The British Embassy in Oman is receiving an increasing number of applications for sponsorship of No Objection Certificates (without which the Oman Embassy in London will not grant a visa to businesses wishing to enter the country), many of which have been sent to the Embassy at short notice. Since the immigration office in Oman is in the process of moving to new accommodation 12 miles away from the Embassy and a member of the Embassy staff has to personally visit the immigration office with applications and call again to collect the NOC's, this will inevitably become a vastly more time consuming process. The Embassy have therefore advised that in future they will require a minimum of three weeks notice (and preferably much longer) before applicants leave the UK in order to obtain the NOC in good time. They emphasise that they are unable to send NOC's to the airport (25 miles away) for collection, a rule contained in 'Hints to Businessmen' but not rigidly applied in the past. In future this rule will be strictly applied. The NOC's will continue to be sent by post to the applicants concerned.

Cyprus: internal travel

Restrictions on entry by UK businessmen into the Turkish occupied zone of Cyprus from the south have been eased. Those who arrive through Greek Cypriot ports can apply in Nicosia to travel to the north of the Island. Applications will be dealt with on their merits. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5338/5339.

Madagascar: British Embassy closure

The British Embassy in Tananarive will close to the public at the end of February 1976. Responsibility for Madagascar will then lie with the Commercial Section, British High Commission, 8th Floor, Permanent House, corner Azikiwe Street/Independence Avenue, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (Postal address: British High Commission, PO Box 9112, Dar es Salaam). Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5334.

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Trade and Industry continues to be published for the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection by Her Majesty's Stationery Office and all existing contracts and agreements will continue unchanged.

Her Majesty's Stationery Office will continue to handle all circulation and distribution matters and subscription inquiries and queries should continue to be addressed to them.

Business backed by ECGD

£10.4 million for Canadian power station
The Export Credits Guarantees Department has guaranteed a £10.4 million loan which Williams and Glyn's Bank Ltd. have made available to Calgary Power Ltd. of Alberta, Canada.

The loan will help finance the supply and installation of a turbo generator set with auxiliaries at the Sundance Power Station by GEC Turbine Generators Ltd. of Rubgy; the contract includes provision of substantial additional equipment. Commissioning is scheduled for late 1980.

This is the fifth Williams and Glyn's loan backed by ECGD to be made available to Calgary Power and brings the total amount to £32 million.

£18 million sugar factory for Philippines. The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a loan of £15.3 million to help finance a contract for an £18 million sugar factory which is to be built for Northern Cotabato Sugar Industries Incorporated at Manaboan on the island of Mindano in the Philippines. Finance for the loan has been arranged by Dashwood Finance Company Ltd. of London and made available by Midland Bank Ltd.

The contract was secured by Dashwood Finance Company for Fletcher and Stewart Ltd. of Derby.

Fletcher and Stewart will be responsible for designing and constructing the factory which will be able to process 4,000 metric tons of sugar cane each day. The factory will be handed over on a turnkey basis by the end of 1977.

This will be the fourth sugar factory built in the Philippines to be covered by an ECGD guaranteed loan and brings the total of ECGD's support for these projects in the Philippines to £35.4 million.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

UK equipment for offshore drilling rigs. The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £4.9 million loan which Williams & Glyn's Bank Ltd. have made available to Loffland and Mid-Continent Supply Company of Fort Dallas, Texas, USA.

The loan will help finance three contracts placed in the UK by Loffland Brothers Company for capital equipment and associated services which are to be incorporated in three deck packages for mounting on offshore drilling rigs. The mountings will be leased to companies operating in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea.

The contracts are with The Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Company Ltd. of Darlington who will design, supply, fabricate and assemble structural steelwork as well as installing all equipment in the deck packages. Halliburton Manufacturing and Services Ltd. of London will supply four bulk-material storage systems and two pump assemblies for cementing and fracturing operations. Anixter UK Ltd. will supply the electric cable. Delivery of all material is scheduled for completion by the end of this year.

Notices to Importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH.

No. 1541: Imports of rum from the Dollar Area

The quota for imports of rum originating in the Dollar Area will be £360,000 cif for the calendar year 1976.

Applications for allocations will be considered from accredited agents of overseas suppliers in Dollar Area countries or from other importers who can establish a direct interest in the trade in rum.

Applications on form ILB/A should reach the Department of Trade at the address shown above not later than 29 February 1976. Page 1 should be completed; on page 2, only the desired value of the licence need be stated; on page 3, and *copy* the applicant's name and address, description of goods (Rum) and tariff heading ex 22.09 should be entered. Existing allocation holders should state the sterling cif value of rum of Dollar Area origin actually imported by them in 1975 against licences issued to them for that year.

No assurance can be given that applications can be met in full as allocations will have to be accommodated within the quota limits.

Applications for licences will be considered, outside the quota, for importations of rum, not of Dollar Area origin but consigned from a Dollar Area country, provided that satisfactory evidence of the origin of rum can be produced.

The Open General Import Licence defines the Dollar Area as Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Republic of Honduras, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Philippines, United States of America, Venezuela.

Inquiries: ILB tel. 01-603 4644, ext. 267.

Certificates of origin: issuing bodies

The following organisations have been designated by the United Kingdom Government for the purpose of issuing certificates of origin under Article 11 of the International Convention relating to the Simplification of Customs Formalities 1923:

Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce
Ayr Chamber of Commerce

Barnsley and District Chamber of Commerce
Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Blackburn and District Chamber of Commerce
Bolton and District Chamber of Commerce
Bradford Chamber of Commerce
Bristol Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Burnley and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Burton upon Trent and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Bury and District Chamber of Commerce

Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
Cardiff Chamber of Commerce
Carlisle Chamber of Commerce
*Chesterfield Chamber of Commerce
Colchester and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce
Coventry Chamber of Commerce
Croydon Chamber of Commerce

Derby and Derbyshire Chamber of Commerce
Doncaster Chamber of Commerce
Dorset Chamber of Commerce
Dudley and District Chamber of Commerce
Dundee Chamber of Commerce

Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce and Manufacturers
Exeter and District Chamber of Commerce

Federation of Sussex Industries and Chamber of Commerce Ltd.
Forth Valley Chamber of Commerce (Falkirk)

Glasgow Chamber of Commerce
Gloucester and County Chamber of Commerce
Goole Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Grantham Chamber of Commerce
Great Grimsby Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Great Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce
Greenock Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures
Guernsey Chamber of Commerce

Halifax and District Chamber of Commerce
Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce
Huddersfield and Spen Valley Chamber of Commerce
Hull Chamber of Commerce and Shipping

Ipswich Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Isle of Man Chamber of Commerce (Douglas)
Isle of Wight Chamber of Commerce (Newport)

Jersey Chamber of Commerce (St. Helier)

Kendal and District Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures
Kidderminster Chamber of Commerce (Birmingham)
Kirkcaldy and East Fife Chamber of Commerce

Lancaster, Morecambe and District Chamber of Commerce (Lancaster)
Leeds Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Leicester and County Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Leith Chamber of Commerce
Lincoln Chamber of Commerce

London Chamber of Commerce and Industry (and branch issuing offices at Barking and Crawley)
Lowestoft Chamber of Commerce
Luton, Dunstable and District Chamber of Commerce (Luton)

Manchester Chamber of Commerce
Medway Chamber of Commerce
Merseyside Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Liverpool)

Neath, Briton Ferry and District Chamber of Commerce (Neath)
Newark Chamber of Commerce
*Newhaven and District Chamber of Commerce
Newport and Monmouthshire Chamber of Commerce
North Lindsey Chamber of Commerce
North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Northampton and County Chamber of Commerce
Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Belfast)
Norwich Chamber of Commerce
Nottingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Oldham and District Chamber of Commerce
Oxford and District Chamber of Commerce

Paisley Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ltd.
Perthshire Chamber of Commerce (Perth)
Plymouth Chamber of Trade and Commerce
Port of Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce
Port Talbot Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Preston and District Chamber of Commerce

Reading Chamber of Commerce and Trade
Rochdale and District Chamber of Commerce
Rotherham and District Chamber of Commerce
Rugby Chamber of Commerce

Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures
Slough and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry (branch issuing offices also at London Airport (Heathrow) and High Wycombe)
South of Scotland Chamber of Commerce (Hawick)
Southampton Chamber of Commerce
Southend Chamber of Trade, Commerce and Industry
Stockport Chamber of Commerce
Swansea Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Swindon Chamber of Commerce

Telford Chamber of Industry and Commerce Ltd.
Teesside and District Chamber of Commerce
Royal Tunbridge Wells Chamber of Trade
Tyne and Wear Chamber of Commerce (Newcastle upon Tyne)

Wakefield District Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Walsall Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Warrington Chamber of Commerce
City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce
*Widnes Chamber of Commerce
*Wigan and District Chamber of Commerce
Wirral Chamber of Commerce
Wolverhampton Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Worcester Chamber of Commerce

* Does NOT certify movement certificates.

The list previously published, in *Trade and Industry* of 4 July 1975, is hereby cancelled.

Information for exporters

Exporters are informed that foreign Customs authorities may refuse certificates of origin other than those issued by organisations designated by the Department of Trade and listed above. Exporters are advised that difficulties may also arise over documents which do no more than authenticate the signature of the declarer (even if the signature of the declarer is later officially authenticated).

Refusal by foreign Customs authorities to accept certificates of origin or difficulties arising, for the reasons given above, are almost bound to lead to delay in delivery of the goods concerned, and may in certain circumstances lead to forfeiture of the goods, or in the imposition of financial penalties, or both.

Chambers of Commerce seeking designation to issue certificates of origin universally acceptable to foreign Customs authorities under the provisions of international Conventions should apply in the first instance to the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, 75 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5BB, as the ABCC acts as an advisory body to the Department of Trade on these matters.

Tariff and Trade Notices

Iceland

Special goods tax. The Icelandic authorities have announced that the special goods tax introduced for the period 17 July to 31 December 1975 has been extended to 31 December 1976. However the rate of tax has been reduced from 12 per cent to 10 per cent for the period 1 January to 31 August and will be further reduced to 6 per cent after that date. The list of goods affected remains unchanged. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Sweden

Import quotas for footwear (further information). The import quotas for certain categories of footwear described in EIS notice number 455 of 27 November 1975 have now been fixed as follows:

Commodity	Quota (no. of pairs)	Licensing period
Plastic shoes	4,367,000	5 Nov. 1975-31 Dec. 1976
Leather shoes	10,459,000	5 Nov. 1975-31 Dec. 1976
Rubber boots	170,000	5 Nov. 1975-17 Mar. 1976

The quotas apply to all countries except State trading countries for which special restrictive arrangements already exist. For this last category a new quota will be established from 18 March 1976 to include imports from the Republic of Korea, Taiwan and Malaysia which are at present covered by separate arrangements. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Austria

Value added tax. On 1 January 1976 the general rate of Value Added Tax in Austria was increased from 16 per cent to 18 per cent. The reduced rate of 8 per cent remains unchanged. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 459/461.

Belgium

Alcohol: tax amended. The *Moniteur Belge* 248, 24 December 1975, published two decrees amending the special consumption tax on ethyl alcohol and the excise duties on alcohol and spirits. The decrees came into force on 1 January 1976. Copies of the decrees (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Price control regulations. The *Moniteur Belge* 251, 31 December 1975, published a decree dated 24 December abolishing the price freeze introduced on 5 May 1975 (see *Trade and Industry*, 23 May 1975) and extended by the decrees of 3 July 1975 (see *Trade and Industry*, 25 July 1975) and 26 September 1975 (see *Trade and Industry*, 31 October 1975). Any proposed increase in prices must be declared to the Belgian Ministry of Economic Affairs at least three months before the new prices are inroduced. The decree came into force on 31 December 1975. Copies of the decree (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

Egg and egg products: foodstuffs regulations. The *Moniteur Belge* 245, 19 December 1975, published a decree dated 7 November 1975 on egg and egg products. The decree comes into force on 1 May 1976. An English translation is being prepared but copies of the decree (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Portugal

1976 tariff rates. In accordance with her Free Trade Agreement, from 1 January 1976 Portugal has further reduced her import duties on many industrial goods of UK and EEC origin. UK manufactured goods which entered duty-free during 1975 will continue to do so during 1976.

British exporters wishing to know the 1976 rates of duty should where possible state the BN number. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Spain

Soya beans: home compensation tax. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 17 January 1976, announced a temporary concessional rate of 1.5 per cent home compensation tax levy, valid from 16 December 1976 on seeds and oleaginous fruit of soya, tariff heading 12.01.B.3.

Soya bean oil: import duty increased. The same *State Gazette*, 17 January 1976, announced an increase of import duty to 11.5 per cent on imports of soya bean oil, crude, tariff heading 15.07.A.2.a.3 and on soya bean oil, refined or purified, tariff heading 15.07.A.2.b.3. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

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Burton upon Trent and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Bury and District Chamber of Commerce

Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
Cardiff Chamber of Commerce
Carlisle Chamber of Commerce
*Chesterfield Chamber of Commerce
Colchester and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce
Coventry Chamber of Commerce
Croydon Chamber of Commerce

Derby and Derbyshire Chamber of Commerce
Doncaster Chamber of Commerce
Dorset Chamber of Commerce
Dudley and District Chamber of Commerce
Dundee Chamber of Commerce

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Gloucester and County Chamber of Commerce
Goole Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Grantham Chamber of Commerce
Great Grimsby Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Great Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce
Greenock Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures
Guernsey Chamber of Commerce

Halifax and District Chamber of Commerce
Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce
Huddersfield and Spen Valley Chamber of Commerce
Hull Chamber of Commerce and Shipping

Ipswich Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Isle of Man Chamber of Commerce (Douglas)
Isle of Wight Chamber of Commerce (Newport)

Jersey Chamber of Commerce (St. Helier)

Kendal and District Incorporated Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures
Kidderminster Chamber of Commerce (Birmingham)
Kirkcaldy and East Fife Chamber of Commerce

Lancaster, Morecambe and District Chamber of Commerce (Lancaster)
Leeds Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Leicester and County Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Leith Chamber of Commerce
Lincoln Chamber of Commerce

London Chamber of Commerce and Industry (and branch issuing offices at Barking and Crawley)
Lowestoft Chamber of Commerce
Luton, Dunstable and District Chamber of Commerce (Luton)
Manchester Chamber of Commerce
Medway Chamber of Commerce
Merseyside Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Liverpool)

Neath, Briton Ferry and District Chamber of Commerce (Neath)
Newark Chamber of Commerce
*Newhaven and District Chamber of Commerce
Newport and Monmouthshire Chamber of Commerce
North Lindsey Chamber of Commerce
North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Northampton and County Chamber of Commerce
Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Belfast)
Norwich Chamber of Commerce
Nottingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Oldham and District Chamber of Commerce
Oxford and District Chamber of Commerce

Paisley Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ltd.
Perthshire Chamber of Commerce (Perth)
Plymouth Chamber of Trade and Commerce
Port of Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce
Port Talbot Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Preston and District Chamber of Commerce

Reading Chamber of Commerce and Trade
Rochdale and District Chamber of Commerce
Rotherham and District Chamber of Commerce
Rugby Chamber of Commerce

Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures
Slough and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry (branch issuing offices also at London Airport (Heathrow) and High Wycombe)
South of Scotland Chamber of Commerce (Hawick)
Southampton Chamber of Commerce
Southend Chamber of Trade, Commerce and Industry
Stockport Chamber of Commerce
Swansea Chamber of Commerce and Shipping
Swindon Chamber of Commerce

Telford Chamber of Industry and Commerce Ltd.
Teesside and District Chamber of Commerce
Royal Tunbridge Wells Chamber of Trade
Tyne and Wear Chamber of Commerce (Newcastle upon Tyne)

Wakefield District Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Walsall Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Warrington Chamber of Commerce
City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce
*Widnes Chamber of Commerce
*Wigan and District Chamber of Commerce
Wirral Chamber of Commerce
Wolverhampton Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Worcester Chamber of Commerce

* Does NOT certify movement certificates.

The list previously published, in *Trade and Industry* of 4 July 1975, is hereby cancelled.

Information for exporters

Exporters are informed that foreign Customs authorities may refuse certificates of origin other than those issued by organisations designated by the Department of Trade and listed above. Exporters are advised that difficulties may also arise over documents which do no more than authenticate the signature of the declarer (even if the signature of the declarer is later officially authenticated).

Refusal by foreign Customs authorities to accept certificates of origin or difficulties arising, for the reasons given above, are almost bound to lead to delay in delivery of the goods concerned, and may in certain circumstances lead to forfeiture of the goods, or in the imposition of financial penalties, or both.

Chambers of Commerce seeking designation to issue certificates of origin universally acceptable to foreign Customs authorities under the provisions of international Conventions should apply in the first instance to the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, 75 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5BB, as the ABCC acts as an advisory body to the Department of Trade on these matters.

Tariff and Trade Notices

Iceland

Special goods tax. The Icelandic authorities have announced that the special goods tax introduced for the period 17 July to 31 December 1975 has been extended to 31 December 1976. However the rate of tax has been reduced from 12 per cent to 10 per cent for the period 1 January to 31 August and will be further reduced to 6 per cent after that date. The list of goods affected remains unchanged. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Sweden

Import quotas for footwear (further information). The import quotas for certain categories of footwear described in EIS notice number 455 of 27 November 1975 have now been fixed as follows:

Commodity	Quota (no. of pairs)	Licensing period
Plastic shoes	4,367,000	5 Nov. 1975-31 Dec. 1976
Leather shoes	10,459,000	5 Nov. 1975-31 Dec. 1976
Rubber boots	170,000	5 Nov. 1975-17 Mar. 1976

The quotas apply to all countries except State trading countries for which special restrictive arrangements already exist. For this last category a new quota will be established from 18 March 1976 to include imports from the Republic of Korea, Taiwan and Malaysia which are at present covered by separate arrangements. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Austria

Value added tax. On 1 January 1976 the general rate of Value Added Tax in Austria was increased from 16 per cent to 18 per cent. The reduced rate of 8 per cent remains unchanged. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 459/461.

Belgium

Alcohol: tax amended. The *Moniteur Belge* 248, 24 December 1975, published two decrees amending the special consumption tax on ethyl alcohol and the excise duties on alcohol and spirits. The decrees came into force on 1 January 1976. Copies of the decrees (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Price control regulations. The *Moniteur Belge* 251, 31 December 1975, published a decree dated 24 December abolishing the price freeze introduced on 5 May 1975 (see *Trade and Industry*, 23 May 1975) and extended by the decrees of 3 July 1975 (see *Trade and Industry*, 25 July 1975) and 26 September 1975 (see *Trade and Industry*, 31 October 1975). Any proposed increase in prices must be declared to the Belgian Ministry of Economic Affairs at least three months before the new prices are inroduced. The decree came into force on 31 December 1975. Copies of the decree (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

Egg and egg products: foodstuffs regulations. The *Moniteur Belge* 245, 19 December 1975, published a decree dated 7 November 1975 on egg and egg products. The decree comes into force on 1 May 1976. An English translation is being prepared but copies of the decree (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Portugal

1976 tariff rates. In accordance with her Free Trade Agreement, from 1 January 1976 Portugal has further reduced her import duties on many industrial goods of UK and EEC origin. UK manufactured goods which entered duty-free during 1975 will continue to do so during 1976.

British exporters wishing to know the 1976 rates of duty should where possible state the BN number. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Spain

Soya beans: home compensation tax. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 17 January 1976, announced a temporary concessional rate of 1.5 per cent home compensation tax levy, valid from 16 December 1976 on seeds and oleaginous fruit of soya, tariff heading 12.01.B.3.

Soya bean oil: import duty increased. The same *State Gazette*, 17 January 1976, announced an increase of import duty to 11.5 per cent on imports of soya bean oil, crude, tariff heading 15.07.A.2.a.3 and on soya bean oil, refined or purified, tariff heading 15.07.A.2.b.3. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

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Global quotas for 1976. In the *State Gazette*, 1 January 1976, the Spanish authorities published details of the global quotas for 1976. The complete list is reproduced below:

Quota no.	Goods	Tariff heading	Annual value pesetas	Method of calling
1	Hops	12.06	68,205,098	Yearly
2	Esparto	14.05.A	48,000,000	Yearly
3	Meat preserves	16.01, 16.02	68,594,341	Yearly
4	Fruit preserves	20.03, 20.04, 20.05, ex 20.06, 20.07.B	68,594,841	Yearly
5	Miscellaneous food products	19.04, 21.07.B 21.07.D	13,933,326	Yearly
6	Soups and soup preparations	21.05	25,723,065	Yearly
7	Beer	22.03	31,632,830	Permanently open
8	Fish meal	23.01.B	410,282,897	Permanently open
9	Industrial fatty alcohols	15.10.C	86,515,000	Six monthly
10	Glucose and lactose, chemically free	17.02.A.1, 17.02.B.1	86,515,000	Six monthly
11	Pyrites and sulphur	25.02, 25.03	273,900,000	Six monthly
12	Lead ores and roasted lead ores	26.01.E, 26.03.A	220,000,000	Permanently open
13	Cokable coal	ex 27.01.A	374,000,000	Permanently open
14	Anthracite	27.01.B	46,085,875	Permanently open
15	Inorganic chemical products	28.02, 28.14.A, 28.15.B, 28.41.B.3, ex 28.46.B	20,664,440	Six monthly
16	Chemical elements and radioactive isotopes	28.50, 28.51	198,000,000	Permanently open
17	Vegetable alkaloids	29.42.A, 29.42.C	121,000	Six monthly
18	Organic chemical products	ex 29.25.I, 29.44.A, 29.44.B	20,900,000	Six monthly
19	Sera	ex 30.02.A.2, ex 30.02.B.2	9,967,881	Permanently open
20	Medicines	ex 30.03.A.2, 30.03.B.2	193,391,000	Permanently open
21	Varnishes, dyes, pigments and similar preparations	32.09.A, ex 32.09.D	73,561,507	Six monthly
22	Perfumery, toilet, cosmetic preparations	33.06, 34.01.B	43,560,000	Six monthly
23	Dextrins and dextrin glues; soluble or roasted starches, starch glues	35.05	6,050,000	Six monthly
24	Powder, pyrotechnic articles and matches	29.03.B.2, 36.01, 36.02, 36.03, ex 36.04, 36.05, 36.06	27,500,000	Six monthly
25	Photographic material	37.04.A, 37.05.B	6,655,000	Six monthly
26	Surface-active preparations and other chemical products	34.02.B, 34.03.B, ex 38.07, ex 38.08, 38.19.F.2, ex 38.19.G, 38.19.H, 38.19.J, ex 38.19.K	219,026,824	Six monthly
27	Phenoplasts and furan resins	39.01.A	96,800,000	Six monthly
28	Aminoplasts	39.01.B	65,340,000	Six monthly
29	Other condensation, polycondensation and polyaddition products	39.01.C, ex 39.01.K	64,307,664	Six monthly
30	Styrene and derivative products (polymerisation)	39.02.C	33,275,000	Six monthly
31	PVC	39.02.E	65,340,000	Six monthly
32	Other polymerisation and copolymerisation products	39.02.A.2, 39.02.G.2, 39.02.G.3, 39.02.L.2, ex 39.02.M.1, ex 39.02.M.2, 39.02.N, ex 39.03.A	117,908,384	Six monthly
33	Manufacture of plastic products	39.07.B	96,800,000	Six monthly
34	Non-liberalised wood manufactures	44.15, 44.16, 44.18, 48.09	28,937,117	Six monthly
35	Silk fabrics	50.09, 50.10	66,550,000	Six monthly
36	Cotton yarns and other yarns	55.05, 55.06, 57.06, 57.07.C	125,743,497	Six monthly
37	Fabrics of various fibres	55.07, 55.08, 55.09, 57.10, ex 57.11	82,500,000	Six monthly
38	Carpets and rugs	58.01, 58.02, 58.03	15,730,000	Six monthly
39	Tulle, lace, velvet and knitted fabrics	58.04.E, 58.08, 58.09, 60.01.C	37,268,000	Six monthly
40	Special fabrics	ex 59.03.A, 59.07, 59.08, ex 59.11, ex 59.12, ex 59.13, 60.06.A.1, 60.06.B.1	33,275,000	Six monthly
41	Other textile manufactures	58.05.D, 58.06, 58.07.A.1, 58.07.B.1, 58.07.C.1, 58.07.D.1, 59.01, 59.02.C, ex 59.04.B, ex 59.05.C, ex 59.06, ex 59.14, ex 59.15	27,830,000	Six monthly
42	Knitted goods	ex 60.02, 60.03.A.2, 60.03.B.2, 60.03.C.1, 60.04.C, 60.05.C	3,993,000	Six monthly
43	Outer garments	61.01.A, ex 61.01.D, ex 61.01.E, 61.02.A, ex 61.02.D, ex 61.02.E	20,900,000	Six monthly
44	Under garments	61.03.A, ex 61.03.D, 61.04.A, ex 61.04.D	3,630,000	Six monthly
45	Other garments and fabric accessories	61.05, 61.07, 61.09, 61.10.A, ex 61.10.D, 61.11.A	10,285,000	Six monthly
46	Other made-up textile articles	62.01.B.1, 62.02.A, 62.03, ex 62.04, ex 62.05.B	10,648,000	Six monthly
47	Manufactures of ceramic articles	69.11.B, 69.12.B, 69.13, 69.14	39,930,000	Six monthly
48	Other glass manufactures	ex 70.13.B.1, 70.21.A, 70.21.B, 70.21.C	55,000,000	Six monthly
49	Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones and similar products	71.01, 71.02.B, ex 71.04	495,000,000	Permanently open
50	Rolled gold products	71.08	11,000,000	Six monthly
51	Precious metals, precious metal-plated products, either raw or semi-finished	71.05, 71.06, ex 71.09, 71.10, 71.11	385,000,000	Six monthly
52	Imitation jewellery and other manufactures	71.12, 71.13, 71.14, 71.15, 71.16	44,000,000	Six monthly
53	Iron and steel containers	ex 73.23	42,900,000	Six monthly
54	Stoves, heaters, cookers, gas rings, etc., as well as their parts of cast iron or steel	73.36	23,650,000	Six monthly
55	Other manufactures of cast iron or steel	ex 73.40.C.1, 73.40.C.2, 73.40.C.3	48,400,000	Six monthly
56	Other copper manufactures	74.19.E, 74.19.F	21,450,000	Six monthly
57	Other aluminium manufactures	ex 76.15, 76.16.B	23,650,000	Six monthly
58	Unwrought lead and its manufactures	78.01, 78.02, 78.03, 78.04, 78.05, 78.06	66,000,000	Permanently open
59	Hand tools for industry	82.03.A, 82.03.B, 82.03.C, ex 82.03.E, 82.04	112,530,000	Six monthly
60	Saws and blades	ex 82.02, ex 82.06.A, ex 82.06.B	63,250,000	Six monthly
61	Cutlery, knives, etc., made of iron or steel	82.09, 82.10, 82.11.A, 82.11.C, 82.11.D, 82.11.E, 82.14	42,900,000	Six monthly
62	Non-liberalised marine engines and parts for their manufacture	ex 84.06.B.2-b, ex 84.06.B.2-c, 84.06.B.2-d, 84.06.C.1, ex 84.06.D.2	472,661,332	Six monthly (except parts for manufacture – permanently open)
63	Non-liberalised motor pumps and motor compressors	ex 84.10.F.2.a, ex 84.10.F.2.b, ex 84.11.D.3	85,743,552	Six monthly
64	Domestic sewing machines and their parts	84.41.A.1, ex 84.41.C	13,200,000	Six monthly
65	TV and radio receivers	85.15.A.2, 85.15.A.1	65,340,000	Six monthly
66	Radio transmitters and transmitter receivers	85.15.B.1, 85.15.B.2, 85.15.B.3	142,780,000	Six monthly
67	Non-liberalised parts for the manufacture of radiotelephones, radiotelegraphic apparatus, TV parts and carbons for cinematography	ex 85.15.E, ex 85.24.C	171,820,000	Permanently open
68	Capital goods for new investment projects	Sections XVI and XVII	16,505,633,837	Permanently open
69	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods, or of persons and goods (dual-purpose)	87.02.A	1,331,000,000	Six monthly
70	Special vehicles for the transport of sands, rocks and minerals	87.02.B.2	428,717,762	Six monthly
71	Chassis and bodies for motor vehicles	ex 87.04, ex 87.05	45,000,000	Six monthly

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Quota no.	Goods	Tariff heading	Annual value pesetas	Method of calling
72	Tractors and the parts for the manufacture of tractors	87.01.A, 87.01.B.2, ex 87.06	1,018,633,400	Six monthly (except parts for manufacture – permanently open)
73	Motor vehicles and their parts, and parts for their manufacture	87.01.C, 87.02.B.1 87.02.B.3, 87.03, ex 87.06	865,920,000	Six monthly (except parts for manufacture – permanently open)
74	Parts, components and accessories for the manufacture of private motor cars	ex 87.04.A, ex 87.05, ex 87.06	321,534,891	Permenantly open
75	Other vehicles, not self-propelled and their parts	87.14	30,783,287	Six monthly (except parts for manufacture – permanently open)
76	Watch cases	91.09.A, ex 91.10	880,000	Six monthly
77	Phonographs, dictaphones, and other apparatus for sound recording and reproduction	92.11.C, 92.11.D, 92.11.E	47,190,000	Six monthly
78	Sound tapes, etc., recording (not liberalised) and parts and accessories for non-liberalised apparatus under heading 92.11	92.12.B.2, 92.13	56,870,000	Permanently open
79	Arms	93.01, 93.02, 93.03, 93.04, 93.05, 93.06	36,300,000	Six monthly
80	Ammunition	93.07	18,150,000	Six monthly
81	Toys	97.01, 97.02, 97.03	36,300,000	Six monthly
82	Equipment and articles for parlour games	97.04, 97.05, 97.08	29,040,000	Six monthly
83	Miscellaneous manufactures	98.01.A.2.b, 98.01.A.2.d, 98.01.B, 98.12.A	4,950,000	Six monthly

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Joint assembly: special valves for nuclear power stations, amendment. Notice was given in *Trade and Industry*, 3 March 1972, page 206 of approval under the special system of joint assembly of a proforma resolution for the manufacture of Special Valves (check, gate, globe), tariff heading 84.61 of nuclear power stations.

The valves to be imported with the reduced import duty, provided the total value did not exceed the percentage of the total industrial cost price was then shown as below:

Item	Percentage
A Valves with gauge between 2 and 14 inches:	
Motor-driven	58
Manually operated	48
B Valves with gauge over 14 inches:	
Motor-driven	65
Manually operated	55

The Spanish *State Gazette*, 10 January 1976 published Decree 3541/1975 which increases the Spanish percentage content of special valves manufactured for nuclear power stations, hence the above table is now amended to read as follows:

Item	Percentage
A Valves with gauge between 2 and 14 inches:	
Motor-driven	50
Manually operated	42
B Valves with gauge over 14 inches:	
Motor-driven	55
Manually operated	48

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Greece

Obligations on foreign shipping companies. The Greek Ministries of Co-ordination and Merchant Marine have issued joint decisions laying down new obligations for foreign shipping companies operating in Greece. These decisions are effective from 1 January 1976. Inquiries: CRE ext. 01-215 5338.

Israel

Seat belts in vehicles. The Israeli authorities have issued regulations making it compulsory for seat belts to be fitted for both passengers in those commercial or closed body vehicles with a gross permitted weight not exceeding 2,000kg (manufactured in 1969 or after) capable of carrying two passengers in the front in addition to the driver. The regulations will come into effect on 1 February 1976. No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Amendment to the Free Import Order. The Israeli authorities have announced that the following goods have been removed from the Free Import Order (liberalised goods) and will now require an import licence.

ex BN 62.03	Bags of jute thread or other bast threads, in respect of which the Minister of Agriculture or any person authorised by him has confirmed that the bag is for the purpose of agriculture.
BN 84.61	Taps, cocks, valves and similar appliances for pipes, boiler shells, tanks, vats and the like, including pressure reducing valves and thermostatically controlled valves.

No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Purchase tax amendment affecting tyres and tubes. The Israeli authorities have issued amendments to the rate of purchase tax affecting tyres and tubes (purchase tax number 1511).

Inquiries (stating the purchase tax number): OTAR ext. 458/461.

Import surcharge. The Israeli authorities have announced that Dried Grapes (raisins) (BN 08.04) will now be subject to an import surcharge levied at the rate of IL 5 per kg.

They have also issued amendments to the rate of surcharge affecting the following BN numbers:

BN 51.01	Yarn of man-made fibres (continuous)
BN 84.06	Internal combustion piston engines.

Inquiries (stating the BN number and the goods affected): OTAR ext. 458/461.

South Africa

Rebate of duty. The following amendment was published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 9 January 1976:

REBATE R38	Item 460.06, BN 28.31. The provision for a rebate of duty on calcium hypochlorite with an available chlorine content exceeding 40 per cent by mass, is withdrawn.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Import control and permit issues: The Minister of Economic Affairs, in announcing details of the import control arrangements for 1976, said that the import control policy for 1976 was to be maintained substantially along the lines which applied during 1975. The details were published in South African *Government Gazette*, 19 December, 1975.

The Minister also announced that an advance first round allocation of import permits for 1976 equivalent to 40 per cent of the total

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permits issued in 1975, would be granted for the following classes or categories of goods:

1 consumer goods
2 clothing
3 confectionery
4 alcoholic beverages including whisky

In accordance with normal practice, further permit allocations for 1976 would again be considered during May 1976.
Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Mozambique

Import documentation. Under pre-independence regulations a certificate of selling price at the place of origin was required for imports of many goods. A commercial invoice, certified by a Portuguese consular officer, was usually acceptable. There is no longer any requirement for a certificate of selling price. The current procedure is that the exporter should send initially to his customer/inquirer in Mozambique three copies of a pro forma invoice. One of these copies is stamped by the local Chamber of Commerce and the importer can then apply for an import permit. This is then submitted with a copy of the commercial invoice when the goods arrive. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Australia

Stranded wire, cables, cordage ropes, plaited bands and the like of copper: Industries Assistance Commission Inquiry. The Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs has asked the Industries Assistance Commission to inquire into and report on the question whether assistance should be accorded the production in Australia of stranded wire, cables, cordage, ropes, plaited bands and the like of copper, being goods of a kind falling within item 74.10 and insulated (including enamelled or anodised) electric wire, cable, bars, strip and the like (including co-axial cable) of a kind falling within sub-item 85.23.9 of the Customs Tariff.

The Minister said that the reference does not cover uninsulated wires, cables, etc., of aluminium, nickel or tungsten, or heating resistors, which are covered either in recent reports by the Commission or in references presently with the Commission or scheduled to be sent to it as part of the tariff review programme.

If it is found that assistance is required the Industries Assistance Commission has been asked to specify the nature and extent of any such assistance.

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence at the Inquiry should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, as soon as possible. Eight copies of all evidence should be supplied, either through their nominated representative or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (tel. 01-799 7447) who will represent UK interests if authorised, indicating the goods with which they are concerned and the request they anticipate submitting. The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Ref. CRE 53/76. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Philippines

Spirits, wines and fermented liquors: tax increased. The Philippines Government has announced an increase in the Excise (Specific) tax with effect from 28 October 1975, on distilled spirits, wines and fermented liquors. The import duty is unchanged at 100 per cent *ad valorem*. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 468/469/401.

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Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice.

Canada

Textile and Clothing Board reports: The Canadian Textile and Clothing Board has published its reports into imports into Canada of the following products:

Work Gloves
Hosiery

Copies are available from CRE 01-215 5397.

Bahamas

Work permit fees. By SI No. 110 of 1975 the Bahamas authorities have introduced a new scale of fees for work permits which covers various occupational categories. Travelling salesmen, for example, are now required to pay work permit fees as follows:

For each period of one year or any part exceeding three months	$1,500.000
For each period of three months or under	$375.000

Further details of these fees are available on request. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Dominica

Stamp duties. Act 22 of 1975 (The Finance Act) introduces a Stamp Duty of 5 per cent on the cif value of Bills of Entry. Certain concessions and exemptions are provided for. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Trinidad and Tobago

Purchase tax amendments. By GN No. 1 of 1976, the Trinidad and Tobago authorities have amended certain rates of purchase tax levied on the duty-paid value of some imported goods. The changes include the lowering of rates by an average of 5 per cent on tea and coffee extracts, stoves, air-conditioning units, radios, televisions and gramophones, some domestic electrical appliances and furniture. No purchase tax is now payable on cigars, tyres, blankets, travelling rugs, footwear and domestic linen of textile or plastic materials.

Further details are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476/7312/455/456/457

Barbados

Abolition of Commonwealth Preference: With effect from 1 January 1976, Barbados has introduced a new single-tier tariff, and Commonwealth Preferences have been abolished.

A copy of the new tariff is now held by OTAR Section. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457

Paraguay

Customs duties and taxes reduced on 1,000 items. Decree 18,991 of 18 November 1975 reduces the *ad valorem* customs duty, the additional and complementary taxes and exchange surcharges on over a thousand items within the following Brussels nomenclature chapters:

3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 37, 38, 39, 40, 43, 44, 45, 48, 50, 51, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 64, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 79, 82, 83, 84, 87, 90, 91, 92, 93, 95, 97, 98

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Dry cell batteries: import prohibited. Decree 19,427 of 9 December 1975 issued by the Paraguayan Ministry of Finance prohibits the importation of dry cell batteries classified under Brussels tariff heading 85.03.00.00 until further notice. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Chile

Duties reduced. Chilean Ministry of Finance decree 1,602 published in the *Diario Oficial*, 12 January 1976, reduces to 25 per cent the rates of duty for the following items:

Tariff no.	Vegetable oils	Previous *ad valorem* rate
15.07.01.01	Soya bean oil, crude	40%
15.07.02.01	Cotton seed oil, crude	40%
15.07.03.01	Peanut oil, crude	40%
15.07.04.01	Olive oil, crude	40%
15.07.05.01	Sunflower seed oil, crude	40%
15.07.06.01	Maize oil, crude	40%
15.07.07.01	Sesamum oil, crude	40%
15.07.07.02	Sesamum oil, refined	40%
15.07.08.01	Coconut or copra oil, crude	30%
15.07.08.02	Coconut or copra oil, purified	30%
15.07.11.01	Colza oil, crude	40%
15.07.11.02	Colza oil, purified	40%
15.07.12.01	Mustard seed oil, crude	30%
15.07.12.02	Mustard seed oil, refined	30%
15.07.13.01	Linseed oil, crude	30%
15.07.14.01	Castor oil, crude	30%
15.07.14.02	Castor oil, refined	30%
15.07.15.01	Oiticica oil, crude	30%
15.07.15.02	Oiticica oil, refined	30%
15.07.16.01	Tung oil (also known as China-wood oil) crude	30%
15.07.16.02	Tung oil (also known as China-wood oil) refined	30%
15.07.89.01 (01)	Other oils for human consumption, used on tankers	40%
15.07.89.01 (02)	Other oils for human consumption	40%
15.07.89.01 (99)	Others	30%
15.07.89.02 (99)	Others	30%

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

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Brazil

Proposed duty changes. The Brazilian authorities have announced proposed duty changes by means of Customs Policy Council Editals, published in the *Diario Oficial*:

Extrusion nozzles: proposed duty increase. Edital 789, published on 15 October 1975, gave notice of a proposed duty increase on the following goods:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rate Current	Proposed
84.38.12.00	Nozzles for the extrusion of artificial or synthetic fibres 'ex' With round capillaries	20%	50%

Blanks for lenses: proposed duty increase. Edital 790, published on 20 November 1975 gave notice of a proposed increase in duty on 'Pressed or moulded glass blocks, not optically polished, for the manufacture of corrective lenses' from its current rate of 9 per cent to 39 per cent. The tariff heading is 70.18.01.00.

Diodes: proposed duty increase. Edital 791, published on 20 November 1975, gave notice of a proposed increase in duty on 'Diodes of germanium, copper oxide, selenium or other similar materials' under tariff heading 85.21.12.00, from its current rate of 15 per cent to 45 per cent.

Hexone: proposed duty increase. Edital 792, published on 21 November 1975, gave notice of a proposal to increase the import duty on methylisobutylcetone (Hexone) under tariff heading 29.13.27.00 from its current rate of 30 per cent to 60 per cent.

Isopropanol: proposed duty increase. Edital 793, published on 21 November 1975, gave notice of a proposed increase in the import duty on isopropylic alcohol (Isopropanol, 2-propanol), under tariff heading 29.04.11.00, from its current rate of 15 per cent to 45 per cent.

Platen presses: proposed duty increase. Edital 795, published on 21 November 1975, gave notice of a proposed increase in duty on platen presses, with or without an automatic margin device, under tariff heading 84.35.01.00, from their current rate of 30 per cent to 60 per cent.

Papers for making stencils: proposed duty reduction. Edital 787, published on 9 October 1975, gave notice of the following proposed duty reductions:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rate Current	Proposed
48.01.01.07 48.15.11.00	Tissue, manila, hemp or similar papers, white, long fibre, porous, unimpregnated, suitable for making stencils, weighing from 10-14g/m²	55%	10%

No further information is available at present. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Citric acid: proposal to maintain import duty. Customs Policy Council Edital 794, published in Brazil's *Diario Oficial*, 21 November 1975, gave notice of a proposal to maintain the import duty on critic acid, under tariff heading no. 29.16.01.01, at the rate of 60 per cent to which it had been temporarily raised by Resolution 1,932. There is no further information available at present. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Reference prices. The Brazilian authorities have announced reference prices by means of Customs Policy Council Resolutions, as follows:

High-density polyethylene. Resolution 2,605, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 14 November 1975, imposed a reference price on high density polyethylene, of tariff heading 39.02.02.01, of US $628.00 per tonne cif.

Zinc alloys. Resolution 2,602, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 14 November 1975, established a reference price on zinc alloys, of tariff heading 79.01.03.00, of US $1,074.00 per tonne cif.

Caustic soda. Resolutions 2,581, 2,582 and 2,583, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 8 October 1975, laid down reference prices for caustic soda as follows:

Tariff no.	Commodity	Reference price US $/tonne cif
28.17.01.01	Dilute caustic soda	190.00
28.17.01.02	Fused caustic soda	235.00
28.17.01.03	Flaked caustic soda	270.00

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Duty changes. The following changes in import duty have been announced by the Brazilian authorities by means of Customs Policy Council Resolutions:

Imports by CPRM: duty exemption. Resolution 2.595, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 13 November 1975, exempted from duty machinery, apparatus, and instruments imported by the Companhia de Pesquisa de Recursos Minerais – CPRM – (Mineral Resource Research Company). These goods, not having a national similar, must be used for the company's normal work of research into mineral and water resources. The concession also covers special tools, spare parts and components usually accompanying such goods.

Chemical fertilisers: duty exemption. Resolution 2.584, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 17 October 1975, exempted from import duty the following chemical fertilisers:

Tariff no.	Goods
31.02.03.00	Ammonium sulphate
31.02.06.00	Urea
31.03.04.00	Superphosphates, having a content of P205 of up to 22 per cent
31.03.05.00	Superphosphates, having a content of P205 of 22–45 per cent
31.03.06.00	Superphosphates, having a content of P205 of over 45 per cent
31.05.01.00	Mono- and diammonium phosphates

This concession is subject to the purchase of locally produced similars in varying ratios according to the region in which they are to be used. These ratios are expressed in terms of nitrogen or soluble P205.

Gas catalysts: duty reduction. Resolution 2,593, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 13 November 1975, reduced for a period of one year the import duty on catalysts for the production of piped gas from naphtha, under tariff heading 38.19.15.99, from it's current rate of 15 per cent to 0 per cent. The concession will lapse on 13 November 1976.

Silver nitrate: duty reduction. Resolution 2,596, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 13 November 1975, reduced the import duty on a quota of 30 tonnes of silver nirtate of a purity of 99.9999 per cent for exclusive use in the production of radiographic film, under tariff heading 28.49.03.32, from its current rate of 45 per cent to 0 per cent for a period of one year. The concession will lapse on 13 November 1976.

Polished rice: duty reduction. Resolution 2,604, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 10 November 1975, reduced the import duty on polished rice, of tariff heading 10.06.03.00, from its current rate of 55 per cent to 25 per cent for a period of 90 days, apsing on 10 February 1976.

Methampyrone: duty increased. Resolution 2,598, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 13 November 1975, increased the duty on methampyrone, under tariff heading 129.35.44.00, from its current rate of 15 per cent to 35 per cent.

Cores of ferro-magnetic powder: duty increased. Resolution 2,614, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 9 December 1975, increased the import duty on cores of ferro-magnetic powder, of tariff heading 85.01.90.01, from its current rate of 15 per cent to 45 per cent.

Carbon film: duty increased. Resolution 2,615, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 9 December 1975, increased the import duty on 'Carbon film, with a polyester support, (unconventional carbon paper)', under tariff heading 39.01.04.99, from its current rate of 85 per cent to 105 per cent. This will be valid until 31 December 1976.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Fertilisers: duty exemption. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,601, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 13 November 1975, gave exemption from duty on the following types of fertilisers:

Tariff no.	Goods
25.03.01.00	Raw sulphur, in bulk
25.10.01.00	Natural phosphates, unmilled
28.08.01.00	Sulphuric acid
28.08.02.00	'Oleum'
28.10.02.03	Orthophosphoric acid
28.16.01.00	Liquid ammonia (anhydrous ammonium hydroxide)
28.39.19.01	Potassium nitrate with a content of KNO3 of 98 per cent or less
31.01.01.00	Guano
31.01.02.00	Residues from the de-greasing of wool and animal products
31.01.03.00	Residues and powder of castor beans
31.01.99.00	Other
31.02.01.00	Sodium nitrates
31.02.02.00	Ammonium nitrates
31.02.04.00	Calcium nitrates
31.02.05.00	Calcium cyanamide
31.02.07.00	Ammonium sulphonitrate
31.02.08.00	Calcium and magnesium nitrate
31.02.09.00	Ammonium calcium chloride
31.02.10.00	Ammonionitrates
31.02.99.00	Other
31.03.01.00	Phosphatic slag
31.03.02.00	Disintegrated calcium phosphates
31.03.03.00	Bicalcic phosphates
31.03.07.00	Natural heat-treated aluminium calcium phosphates
31.04.01.00	Evaporites; carnalite, kainite, sylvinite, and other natural crude potassic salts
31.04.02.00	Potassium chloride
31.04.03.00	Potassium sulphates
31.04.04.00	Magnesium and potassium double sulphates
31.04.99.00	Other
31.05.04.00	Sodium and potassium nitrate with a nitrogen content of 15 per cent or less and a K_2O content of 15 per cent or less
31.05.05.00	Micronutrients

The Resolution also reduced the import duty on the following fertilisers from 15 per cent to 10 per cent:

Tariff no.	Goods
31.05.02.00	Ammonium and potassium double phosphates
31.05.03.00	Potassium nitrophosphate
31.05.06.00	Mixed fertilisers, whether or not in granular form, containing nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in the formula
31.05.99.00	Other

The concessions granted in this Resolution have a validity of six months and lapse on 13 May 1976. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

European Community News

Foreign ministers welcome Maghreb trading agreements

A report from the commission on the successful conclusion of trading agreements with the three Maghreb countries – Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco – was heard by foreign ministers of the Nine at their council meeting in Brussels on 20 January. Details of the agreements, which were welcomed as an important stage in the Community's negotiations with Mediterranean countries, will be published shortly in *Trade and Industry*.

At the same time ministers heard of the successful conclusion of negotiations with Malta and went on to adopt directives authorising the commission to open negotiations with the four Mashraq countries – Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt.

Their wide-ranging discussions also covered relations with Yugoslavia, Portugal and Canada. They agreed in principle that Yugoslavia should have access to loans from the European Investment Bank. The loans, which would be subject to a ceiling, would finance projects of common European interest approved by the Bank's board of governors.

On Portugal, ministers reached agreement on a mandate which will enable the commission to open negotiations for a new trade agreement under the 'future developments' clause of the free trade treaty signed in 1972.

The opening of negotiations for a commercial and economic co-operation agreement with Canada, however, remain subject to the conclusion of a satisfactory formula to cover the question of non-discriminatory access to raw materials. Ministers expressed a hope that the negotiating mandate would be adopted at the foreign council scheduled for 9-10 February.

During a discussion on the second monthly report on the state of the Community, ministers exchanged views about the Community's thermo-nuclear fusion programme. Referring to the Joint European Torus (JET) project, Mr. Callaghan said that the UK attached the highest importance to it. The project would be very expensive, but could be a breakthrough for alternative energy production for the next century. On the question of the best site, he said that this should be selected on scientific and technological grounds.

In the chair at the foreign council was Luxembourg's minister Gaston Thorn. This month marked the opening of Luxembourg's six-month term of council presidency. Britain will take over the chair from the Netherlands next January.

UK calls for stringent scrutiny of community expenditure

British ideas on financial control within the community are set out in a white paper produced by the Government last month*.

The proposals, which include a recommendation for increased European Assembly supervision of community expenditure and better control over policy decisions, were first outlined by the Prime Minister in a speech delivered in Liverpool on 26 September when he explained how British experience in the field of financial control might be adapted to the circumstances of the European community. The ideas aroused considerable interest in other member states and during the ensuing weeks there were discussions with other governments, in particular the Federal German Government, which had also been considering the problem.

Critical examination by assembly

The British white paper, which contains the text of the presidency statement issued after the meeting of the nine heads of government in Rome last month, deals firstly with the development of the role of the European Assembly in the critical examination of all community expenditure.

Referring to the Court of Auditors which is to be established under the treaty signed by member states last July, the white paper points out that the treaty implies the development of a close relationship between the court on the one hand and the council and the assembly on the other.

It also recalls that in June 1974 the assembly adopted a resolution which was intended to give a sub-committee of its Committee on Budgets functions similar to those of the Public Accounts Committee of the British House of Commons. Assuming that the audit court's report will be similar to that now produced by the British Comptroller and Auditor General, the white paper suggests that the assembly committee should use the report in order to examine in detail situations where there may have been waste or inefficiency. The committee might then produce its own report to criticise, if necessary, community expenditure management. The white paper makes it clear that the assembly's role would remain quite separate from that of the Court of Auditors – its tasks would be to pursue any points uncovered by the court which seemed to require further examination.

It also suggests that there might be a case for separating the ex-post facto control of spending and the forward planning and control of community expenditure as far as assembly scrutiny was concerned, since both tasks involved considerable work and rather different techniques.

The Government points out that proposals for expenditure would get a more constructive response from the council if member states could be satisfied that, before reaching the council, they had been subjected to the same sort of stringent scrutiny as member states themselves apply to their own public spending programmes and that proper account had been taken of the financial constraints on member states which inevitably limit the tolerable growth of community expenditure. The white paper suggests, therefore, that those in the community institutions with major policy responsibilities should be directly answerable to the assembly – as well as to their own institution – for all expenditure within the policy sector under

*Financial Control in the European Community Cmd. 6360.

their charge. Commissioners already defend their policies to the assembly and its committees. It would be relatively simple, the Government says, to extend the practice, making Directors-General and equivalent officials in other institutions answerable to an assembly committee about expenditure aspects of the policies for which they were responsible.

But in some important cases – such as those related to the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (FEOGA) – the onus of safeguarding community expenditure fell on the institutions of the member states. In formulating any new arrangements, therefore, it would be essential to establish as precisely as possible the relative responsibilities of community and national officials.

Financial commissioner

The Government also endorses the proposal already made by the Federal German Government for the appointment of a financial commissioner with responsibility for budget and financial control work. He would be in charge of the Directorate-General (DG XX) responsible for financial control and, backed by officials in this DG, he would be responsible for developing the present system under which the commission are advised of the financial effects of proposals requiring additional expenditure before they are approved and forwarded to the council. The financial commissioner's staff would need to work in close liaison with those concerned in the assembly and (other institutions) with expenditure responsibility and financial control.

The white paper suggests that, if the commission agrees, the proposal should be implemented when the commissioners' current term of office expires at the end of this year.

Role of budget council

The Government acknowledges that the key to successful control over the growth of community budget expenditure lies more with the council than with the commission, and suggests that the budget council should meet more than twice a year, as at present, in order to review the prospects for the forthcoming budget. Indeed it has now been agreed by the European Council that the expanded role envisaged for the budget council could be effectively carried out by a joint, annual meeting of foreign and finance ministers.

Trade with EFTA countries – extended scope of form EUR 2

From 1 February 1976 the limitation of the use of Form EUR 2 to goods sent by post is being abolished. At the same time the maximum value of a consignment that can be covered by an EUR 2 is being increased from 1,000 units of account to 1,500 ua (£630) and the form may be used for both postal and non-postal consignments up to this value.

Form EUR 2 is a certificate of origin enabling goods to claim the preferential rates of duty provided by the agreements between the EEC and the EFTA countries. Its advantage over the normal evidence of origin (the EUR 1 certificate) is that it does not have to be presented to customs in the exporting country for authentication after completion and signature by the exporter.

Pending reprint, the existing EUR 2 form may be used for non-postal as well as postal traffic, the special postal instructions on the form being ignored in the former case. The country of origin must however be stated in box 7 (which is blank at present) and UK exporters should insert in this box the words 'Country of origin – UK' (or 'EEC') or, for re-exports, a named EFTA country. *This new requirement applies both to postal and non-postal traffic.* The form must not be used for goods originating in countries outside the EEC or EFTA. Rules of origin will be found in Customs Notice No. 810. The accuracy of declarations is checked from time to time by forms being sent by the importing country authorities to the exporting country for verification.

Consignments covered by form EUR 2 must consist solely of originating goods. For mixed consignments an EUR 1 certificate should be used with an indication of which goods included in the consignment are non-originating. Exporters who are authorised to use pre-authenticated EUR 1s are advised not to change to EUR 2s for non-postal consignments as the new procedure offers them no advantage.

Importers who receive EUR 2s for non-postal consignments from their EFTA suppliers should present them to Customs with the import entry in the same way as EUR 1s.

Further information can be obtained from HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE. EUR 2 forms (Customs reference C.1297) and copies of Notice No. 810 can be obtained from the same address or from the office of any Collector of Customs and Excise. For telephone inquiries, ring 01-626 1515, ext. 2447, 2454, 2165 or 2385.

The above changes do not apply to EUR 2 forms used for trade with Israel. For these the restriction to postal traffic remains and the maximum value is unchanged at £420.

EEC farm price proposals – 1976-77

At their council meeting on 19-20 January, agriculture ministers of the Nine held a further round of talks about the commission's 1976-77 price proposals. The latest exchange of views followed discussions at a previous ministerial meeting in December.

Ministers agreed to continue consideration of the proposals at council meetings next month, when it is expected that final decisions will be taken.

On a separate item on the agenda, the council agreed to the adoption of a regulation suspending the community's tariffs on ware potatoes imported until 28 March.

One of the Vanguard Engineering's 30-ton low loading vehicles arriving at Dijon in France. The London-based British firm was moving the entire factory of Sundstrand Hydraulic AB of Sweden, to two locations – one in France (Dijon) and one in the USA (Rockford, Illinois).

New EC Legislation

Common Agricultural Policy

The texts of the following regulations and decisions which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities:*

Processed fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 40/76 amending for the first time Regulation (EEC) 2104/75 concerning the application of the system of import licences for tomato concentrates (*Official Journal* L6, 13 January 1976).

Cattle, beef and veal. Regulation (EEC) 76/76 setting up a system linking imports of beef and veal products effected by way of protective measures with the sale of beef held by intervention agencies (*Official Journal* L10, 17 January 1976).

Seeds and plants. Decision 76/55/EEC authorising Italy to permit temporarily the marketing of certain types of fodder plant seed satisfying less stringent requirements (*Official Journal* L10, 17 January 1976).

Decision 76/56/EEC authorising France to permit temporarily the marketing of certain types of fodder plant seed satisfying less stringent requirements (*Official Journal* L10, 17 January 1976).

Imports from non-member states

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L9, 16 January 1976 contains the texts of the following decisions:

Decision 76/46/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to imports of new fabric sacks of a kind used for the packing of goods, made from polyethylene or polypropylene strip or the like, falling within subheading 62.03 B ex II of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in South Korea and in free circulation in the Netherlands.

Decision 76/47/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to umbrellas and sunshades (including walking-stick umbrellas and similar umbrellas) falling within heading 66.01 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.

Publications on the European Communities

Listed below are official publications on publications on European Communities' matters issued during the period 1 December 1975-14 January 1976. All can be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Orders, quoting the Standard Book Number (which in the list is given in brackets after each title), should be sent to HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. The price inclusive of postage is given in parenthesis at the end of each reference.

Parliamentary publications

Command 6304. European Communities No. 157 (1975). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of letters renewing the Agreement on Trade and Technical Co-operation between the European Economic Community and the Member States, of the one part, and the Lebanese Republic, of the other part. Brussels, 13 October 1975. The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and was applied with effect from 1 July 1975. [0 10 163040 9] 4 pp. 12p (18½p).

Command 6332. European Communities No. 144 (1975). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Sri Lanka on Trade in Fabrics of Silk or of Waste Silk other than Noil or of Cotton, Woven on Handlooms. Brussels, 23 May 1975. The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community. [0 10 163320 3] 3 pp. 12p (18½p).

Command 6337. European Communities No. 145 (1975). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Laos on Trade in Fabrics of Silk or of Waste Silk other than Noil or of Cotton, Woven on Handlooms. Brussels, 23 May 1975. The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community. [0 10 163370 x] 4 pp. 12p (18½p).

Command 6338. European Communities No. 146 (1975). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Laos on Trade in Hand-Made Products (Handicrafts). Brussels, 23 May 1975. The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community. [0 10 163380 7] 7 pp. 20p (26½p).

Command 6360. Financial Control in the European Community. [0 10 163600 8] 12 pp. 22p (28½p).

Command 6355. European Communities No. 140 (1975). Commercial Co-operation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Sri Lanka. Brussels, 22 July 1975. The Agreement was made under Articles 113 and 114 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and entered into force on 1 December 1975. [0 10 163550 8] 8 pp. 20p (26½p).

Command 6356. European Communities No. 2 (1976). Agreement between the European Economic Community and the People's Republic of Bangladesh on Trade in Jute Products. Brussels, 24 October 1974. The Agreement entered into force on 1 December 1975. [0 10 163560 5] 7 pp. 20p (26½p).

Commission of the European Communities

Council of the European Communities. General Secretariat: Treaty amending certain Financial Provisions of the Treaties Establishing a Single Council and a Single Commission of the European Communities. Treaty amending certain Provisions of the Protocol on the Statute of the European Investment Bank. [0 11 935088 2] 64 pp. 60p (71p).

Investment in the Community Coalmining and Iron and Steel Industries. Report on the 1975 Survey. Position as at 1 January 1975 in the Nine Countries of the Enlarged Community. September 1975. [0 11 935149 8] 93 pp. £4.40 (£4.63).

Comparative Tables of the Social Security Systems in the Member States of the European Communities. 8th Edition. (Situation at 1 July 1974) General System. [0 11 935153 6] 125 pp. £1.90 (£2.13).

Symposium on European Integration and the Future of Parliaments in Europe. Held at Luxembourg, 2-3 May 1974. Academic Papers and Summary of Proceedings. October 1975. [0 11 935151 x] 364 pp. £3.90 (£4.32).

Vocational Training. Information Bulletin No. 2/3. September 1975. [0 11 935164 1] 46 pp. 65p (78½p).

Taxation Series 1975. No. 1. Tax Policy and Investment in the European Community. [0 11 935166 8] 523 pp. £11.56 (£12.18).

Supplements to the Bulletin of the European Communities

9/75. Reports on European Union. European Parliament. Court of Justice. Economic and Social Committee. [0 11 935106 4] 26 pp. 60p (69p).

10/75. Proposal for a Council Directive concerning the Harmonisation of Systems of Company Taxation and of withholding Taxes on Dividends. Transmitted to the Council by the Commission on 1 August 1975. [0 11 935107 2] 21 pp. 30p (39p).

11/75. Action Programme for the European Aeronautical Sector. Commission Communication and Proposals to the Council forwarded on 3 October 1975. [0 11 935108 0] 37 pp. 60p (71p).

Statistical Office of the European Communities

Balances of Payments, 1963-73. Yearbook 1974. [0 11 935154 4] 271 pp. £1.70 (£2.18).

Statistical Yearbook 1975. Transport and Communications, Tourism 1972-73. [0 11 935152 8] 132 pp. £2.20 (£2.62).

Energy Statistics 1969-73. Yearbook 1974. [0 11 935167 6] 403 pp. £2.80 (£3.42).

Statistical Studies and Surveys 1975. No. 1. [0 11 935168 4] 146 pp. £2.80 (£3.22).

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

EEC association and trade agreements

A number of countries have concluded trade arrangements or are currently negotiating new arrangements with the European Community. The table below shows the situation at the end of 1975, giving brief details of each agreement, trade provisions and, where appropriate, a note on how the agreements apply to the UK. At present the Community is negotiating further trade agreements and renewing or adapting existing ones. News of developments in these negotiations will be given in *Trade and Industry*.

Details about the sources of further information are listed on pages 330 to 331, but if you are not sure of the right contact for your inquiry, ring the EEC Information Unit – tel. 01-215 4301 (six lines). Open 9-5.30 Monday to Friday.

Basic details of agreement	Trade provisions	Applicability to UK	Further information
Greece			
Association Agreement providing for full customs union between the Community and Greece by 1984. Entered into force on 1 November 1962 for an unlimited period.	Under the Association Agreement the Six already give duty-free entry to all Greek industrial goods except those covered by the ECSC and to a range of agricultural products. Approximately 60 per cent of the Six's exports to Greece are at present duty free. Import duties on the remainder will be progressively reduced until they are abolished in 1984.	An Interim Agreement implementing certain provisions of the Additional Protocol which extends the EEC-Greece Association Agreement to the new member states came into force on 1 July 1975. The UK will grant duty free entry to Greek industrial goods except those covered by the ECSC by 1 July 1977, and will also eliminate import duties on those agricultural products covered by the Agreement over a period ending on 1 January 1978. From July 1977 UK exports to Greece will receive the same treatment as those from the rest of the Community.	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 439. General Division: 01-215 5488. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2565.
Turkey			
Association Agreement providing for full customs union between the Community and Turkey. The trade provisions of the Agreement entered into force on 1 January 1973 for the original Six.	The enlarged Community gives duty-free entry to imports from Turkey of industrial products other than those covered by the ECSC, and with the exception of certain textile and refined petroleum products on which concessions are given within the limits of tariff quotas. Duty reductions are also given on a number of agricultural products. Turkey is eliminating duties on imports from the EEC according to two timetables – one of 12 years ending in 1985 and one of 22 years ending in 1995.	An Interim Agreement implementing certain provisions of the Supplementary Protocol which extends the EEC-Turkey Association Agreement to the new member states came into force on 1 January 1974. From July 1977, UK exports to Turkey will receive the same treatment as those from the rest of the Community.	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 439. General Division: 01-215 5488. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2565.
Morocco			
Association Agreement entered into force on 1 September 1969. Should have expired on 31 August 1974 but extended until new Agreement with the Nine enters into force. Negotiations currently taking place for a new Agreement.	Duty-free entry into the Six of all Moroccan industrial goods except cork and those covered by the ECSC. There are tariff concessions on a limited number of agricultural items. Morocco extends tariff concessions to all countries: there are thus no tariff preferences on EEC exports to Morocco.	Applicable since 1 March 1974. The UK is phasing in the provisions of the Agreement over a transitional period generally ending on 1 July 1977.	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 461. General Division: 01-215 5544. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2310.
Tunisia			
Association Agreement entered into force on 1 September 1969. Should have expired on 31 August 1974 but extended until new Agreement with the Nine enters into force. Negotiations currently taking place for a new Agreement.	Duty-free entry into the Six of all Tunisian industrial goods except cork and those covered by the ECSC. There are also tariff concessions on a limited number of agricultural items. Duty reductions on imports into Tunisia from the EEC are in the order of 20-30 per cent.	Applicable since 1 September 1974. The UK is phasing in the provisions of the Agreement over a transitional period ending on 1 July 1977.	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 461. General Division: 01-215 5544. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2310 (imports) ext. 2978 (exports).

Basic details of agreement	Trade provisions	Applicability to UK	Further information
Algeria			
No Agreement at present. Negotiations currently taking place for an Agreement with the enlarged Community.		UK is still charging 'standstill' rates. (See footnote 1.)	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 461. General Division: 01-215 5544. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2310.
Israel			
Preferential Agreement providing for mutual tariff reductions operative from 1 July 1975. The Agreement also covers co-operation to promote trade and to encourage joint ventures by Community and Israeli industrialists.	Most Israeli industrial exports to the Community will be duty-free by 1 July 1977. Some items are however subject to Community ceilings. There are substantial concessions covering 85 per cent of Israel's agricultural exports to the Community. Sixty per cent of the Community's industrial exports to Israel will be duty-free from 1 January 1980. For other products tariffs will be abolished by 1 January 1986.	Applicable since 1 July 1975.	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 458. General Division: 01-215 3070. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2310 (imports) ext. 2978 (exports).
Spain			
Six year Preferential Trade Agreement entered into force on 1 October 1970. Negotiations for an Agreement with the enlarged Community are in abeyance.	Tariff reduction of up to 60 per cent by the Six on most industrial products. Tariff reductions of 60 per cent and 25 per cent on various imports into Spain from the Six.	Not applicable but pending the conclusion of a new Agreement between Spain and the enlarged Community the UK adopted certain interim tariff arrangements with effect from 10 July 1975.	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 462. General Division: 01-215 3070. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2310 (imports).
Cyprus			
Association Agreement providing for gradual introduction of customs union in second stage (after 1.7.77) entered into force 1 June 1973.	Most industrial goods imported from Cyprus into the Six benefit from a 70 per cent reduction in the Common Customs Tariff. There are also reductions on a number of agricultural products. A wide range of EEC exports to Cyprus benefit from reduced duty (the present reduction of 25 per cent will be extended to 35 per cent by 1 June 1977).	The UK is phasing in the Agreement over a transitional period ending on 1 July 1977. Until then goods from Cyprus continue to benefit from preferences in force on 1 January 1972 where these are better than those under the Agreement.	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 471. General Division: 01-215 5544. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2310 (imports) ext. 2978 (exports).
Egypt			
Five-year Preferential Trade Agreement entered into force on 1 November 1973.	Most industrial goods imported from Egypt into the Six benefit from a 55 per cent reduction in the Common Customs Tariff. There are also reductions on a number of agricultural products. A wide range of EEC exports to Egypt are benefiting from a 50 per cent tariff reduction.	The UK is phasing in the provisions of the Agreement over a transitional period ending on 1 July 1977.	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 458. General Division: 01-215 5544. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2310 (imports) ext. 2978 (exports).
Malta			
Association Agreement entered into force on 1 April 1971 for a period of five years until 31 March 1976. Negotiations have recently been concluded to enlarge the Agreement and extend its provisions to the enlarged Community.	Maltese exports to the original Six have benefited from reduced duty (70 per cent of full rate) since 1 July 1971. Malta has granted reduced (35 per cent of full rate) entry for most industrial products from the Six.	Not yet applicable. Trade between the UK and Malta continues to operate under the alternatives of 'standstill' rate, 'special rates' or Commonwealth preference until 30 June 1977 (see footnote 1). The new Agreement will alter these arrangements.	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 471. General Division: 01-215 5544. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2310 (imports).

Basic details of agreement	Trade provisions	Applicability to UK	Further information
Lebanon			
Non-Preferential Trade and Technical Co-operation Agreement signed on 1 July 1965. Renewable annually.	Mfn treatment between the EEC and Lebanon. Joint Committee set up to facilitate trade improvement and increased technical co-operation.	The Non-Preferential Trade and Technical Co-operation Agreement has applied to the UK since 15 May 1973.	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 7062. General Division: 01-215 5544. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2310 (imports).
A Preferential Trade Agreement was signed in December 1972 but has not been ratified by Lebanon.	Not yet applicable.	Not yet applicable. The UK is still charging 'standstill' rate (see footnote 1).	
Yugoslavia			
Five-year Non-Preferential Trade Agreement entered into force on 1 September 1973.	Mfn treatment between the EEC and Yugoslavia. Joint Commission set up to establish ways and means of promoting economic and commercial co-operation between the EEC and Yugoslavia.	Applicable since 1 September 1973.	CRE 1: 01-215 3707. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 288. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2310.
Members of European Free Trade Association (EFTA)			
Austria (a) **Finland* (b)** **Iceland (c)** * Associate Member	**Norway (a)** **Portugal (including Azores and Madeira) (b)**		**Sweden (a)** **Switzerland (including Liechtenstein) (a)**
Free Trade Agreements entered into force on 1 January 1973 for an unlimited period (1 July 1973 for Norway, 1 January 1974 for Finland).	The Agreements provide for the gradual elimination of tariffs on most industrial goods over a four and a half year transitional period between the original six EEC members and the Irish Republic on the one hand, and each EFTA country on the other. The majority of the free trade that already existd between the seven EFTA countries and the UK and Denmark has been maintained. There are some special provisions for each individual country affecting certain sensitive products.	Each Agreement applies to the UK.	CRE: 3 01-215 3728 OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. (a) 459 (b) 460 General Division: 01-215 5544. HM C & Ex: 01-626 1515 ext. 2310 (imports) ext. 2385 (exports).
The ACP States			
Bahamas (i) **Barbados (i)** **People's Republic of Benin (f)** **Botswana (e)** **Burundi (f)** **Cameroon (f)** **Central African Republic (f)** **Chad (f)** **People's Republic of the Congo (f)**	**Equatorial Guinea (c)** **Ethiopia and Eritrea (f)** **Fiji (d)** **Gabon (f)** **Gambia (g)** **Ghana (g)** **Guinea (f)** **Guinea Bissau (b)** **Grenada (i)** **Guyana (i)** **Ivory Coast (f)**	**Jamaica (i)** **Kenya (f)** **Lesotho (e)** **Liberia (g)** **Malagasy Republic (f)** **Malawi (g)** **Mali (f)** **Mauritania (f)** **Mauritius (e)** **Niger (f)** **Nigeria (g)**	**Rwanda (e)** **Senegal (f)** **Sierra Leone (g)** **Somali Democratic Republic (e)** **Sudan (h)** **Swaziland (e)** **Tanzania (f)** **Togo (f)** **Tonga (d)** **Trinidad and Tobago (i)**	**Uganda (f)** **Upper Volta (f)** **Western Samoa (a)** **Zaire (f)** **Zambia (g)**
ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé, between EEC and 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific states. The Convention contains provisions on trade co-operation, the stabilisation of export receipts, industrial co-operation financial and technical co-operation, industrial co-operation and establishment, services, payments and capital movements. The Convention will enter into force when ratified by the Community and two-thirds of the ACP states and will expire on 1 March 1980. The trade provisions, however, entered into force as an interim measure on 1 July 1975.	All imports from the ACP states, with the exception of about 4 per cent of imports in the agricultural sector, enter into the EEC free of customs duties and similar charges. For these exceptions, the duties and/or levies will generally be at a reduced rate. The main items in this category are rice, maize, beef and fresh oranges. For some agricultural products – notably beef, rum, bananas and sugar – there are other concessions or special arrangements.	The Convention applies to all nine members of the Community.	CRE 1: 01-215 5106. OTAR: 01-248 5757. ext. (a) 401 (b) 460 (c) 462 (d) 469 (e) 471 (f) 472 (g) 473 (h) 7062 (i) 7312 General Division: 01-215 3070. HM C & Ex.: 01-626 1515 ext. 2294.

Basic details of agreement	Trade provisions	Applicability to UK	Further information

Overseas Countries and Territories

St. Pierre and Miquelon (a)
Comoro Archipelago (a)
Territory of Afars and Issas (a)
New Caledonia and Dependencies (a)
Wallis and Futuna Islands (a)
French Polynesia (a)
French Southern and Antarctic Territories (a)
Netherlands Antilles (b)
Surinam (b)
Anglo French Condominium of the New Hebrides (a)
Belize (e)
British Antarctic Territory (c)
British Indian Ocean Territory (f)
Solomon Islands (d)
British Virgin Islands (e)
Brunei (h)
Cayman Islands (e)
Falkland Islands and Dependencies (c)
Gilbert Islands (g)
Montserrat (e)
Pitcairn (g)
St. Helena and Dependencies (Ascension and Tristan de Cunha) (f)
The Seychelles (f)
Turks and Caicos Is. (e)
Tuvalu (g)
West Indian Associated States (Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, St. Kitts-Nevis. Anguilla) (e)

Definitive arrangements, broadly similar to those operating under the ACP-EEC convention of Lomé, but probably excluding provisions on industrial co-operation, are still subject to discussion within the EEC. They will probably enter into force early in 1976, and expire at the same time as the Lomé Convention. Interim trade provisions entered into force on 1 August 1975.	The trade provisions are virtually identical to those applying to trade with the ACP states. Additional concessions apply to arrowroot and arrowroot products.	The provisions apply to all nine members of the Community.	CRE 1 : 01-215 5106. OTAR : 01-248 5757 ext. (a) 423 (b) 288 (c) 476 (d) 468 (e) 7312 (f) 471 (g) 469 General Division : 01-215 3070. HM C & Ex. : 01-626 1515 ext. 2294.

Argentina

Three-year Non-Preferential Trade Agreement entered into force on 1 January 1972. The Agreement was extended for a year until the end of 1975, and has since been extended until 31 December 1976.	The Agreement provides for reciprocal liberalisation of trade, and co-operation in the agricultural sector. There are special provisions for certain beef and veal products from Argentina.	UK was not party to this Agreement but is bound by the provisions of the Agreement under Article 4 (1) of the Treaty of Accession.	CRE 2 : 01-215 5287. OTAR : 01-248 5757 ext. 474.

Uruguay

Three-year Non-Preferential Trade Agreement entered into force on 1 August 1974.	Mfn treatment between the EEC and Uruguay. The Agreement provides for reciprocal liberalisation of trade and co-operation in the agricultural sector. There are special provisions for certain beef and veal products from Uruguay.	Applicable since 1 August 1974.	CRE 2 : 01-215 5287. OTAR : 01-248 5757 ext. 474.

Brazil

Three-year Non-Preferential Trade Agreement entered into force on 1 August 1974.	Mfn treatment between the EEC and Brazil. The Agreement provides for reciprocal liberalisation of trade, and co-operation in the agricultural sector.	Applicable since 1 August 1974.	CRE 2 : 01-215 5293. OTAR : 01-248 5757 ext. 476.

Mexico

Five-year Non-Preferential Trade Agreement.	Mfn treatment between the EEC and Mexico. Improvement in the GSP to take account of Mexican interests. (See footnote 2.)	Applicable since 1 November 1975.	CRE 2 : 01-215 5290. OTAR : 01-248 5757 ext. 476.

CERTAIN ASIAN COUNTRIES

Bangladesh

Negotiations currently taking place for a Commercial Co-operation Agreement with the Community.			CRE 4 : 01-215 5279. OTAR : 01-248 5757 ext. 420.
Commodity Agreement (unlimited period).	Handicraft products, hand loom fabrics of cotton and silk.	Applicable since 1 January 1974.	
One year Commodity Agreement (negotiations for new, possibly four-year Agreement likely).	Jute manufactures.	Applicable since 1 January 1975.	

Basic details of agreement	Trade provisions	Applicability to UK	Further information
India			
Five-year Commercial Co-operation Agreement entered into force on 1 April 1974.	Mfn treatment between India and the EEC. Joint Commission set up to ensure satisfactory working of the Agreement.	Applicable since 1 April 1974.	CRE 4: 01-215 5279. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 420.
Commodity Agreement (unlimited period).	Handicraft products, hand loom fabrics of cotton and silk.	Applicable since 1 January 1973.	
Commodity Agreement (expired at the end of 1975 – negotiations for new Agreement likely).	Jute manufactures, coir products.	Applicable since 1 January 1973.	
Three-year Commodity Agreement.	Multifibre textiles.	Applicable since 1 January 1975.	
Five-year Commodity Agreement.	Cane sugar.	Applicable since 18 July 1975.	
Pakistan			
Negotiations currently taking place for a Commercial Co-operation Agreement with the Community.			CRE 4: 01-215 5279. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 420.
Commodity Agreement (unlimited period).	Handicraft products, handloom fabrics of cotton and silk.	Applicable since 1 January 1973.	
Three-year Commodity Agreement.	Multifibre textiles.	Applicable since 1 January 1975.	
Sri Lanka			
Five-year Commercial Co-operation Agreement entered into force on 1 October 1975.	Mfn treatment between Sri Lanka and the EEC. Joint Commission set up to ensure satisfactory working of the Agreement.	Applicable since 1 October 1975.	CRE 4: 01-215 5273. OTAR: 01-248 5757 ext. 471.
Commodity Agreement (unlimited period).	Handicraft products.	Applicable since 1 January 1973.	
Commodity Agreement (expires at the end of 1975 – negotiations for new Agreement likely).	Coir products.	Applicable since 1 January 1973.	
Commodity Agreement (unlimited period).	Handloom fabrics of cotton and silk.	Applicable since 1 March 1975.	

1 Pending the introduction of new trade arrangements between the EEC and Malta, Lebanon and Algeria, imports from those countries continue to benefit from the rate of import duty applicable at 1 January 1972 where they are lower than the third country rate moving towards the CCT. The goods concerned and the 'standstill' rates of duty applicable to them, are listed in Part 10A of the 1976 Tariff. The 'special' rates for Malta are given in Part 10IJ of the Tariff. To qualify for these rates the goods must satisfy the appropriate origin and consignment conditions described in the relevant Customs Notice. (For Malta – Notice Nos. 814 and 814A, Lebanon – Notice Nos. 820 and 820A, Algeria – Notice Nos. 343 and 343B.)

2 GSP (more correctly GSTP): The Generalised System of Tariff Preferences is a system rising out of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development under which developed countries grant preferential tariff treatment to certain goods originating in developing countries. Many of the countries listed in the table are GSP beneficiaries – Custom's Notice 343 refers.

Sources of further information

Department of Trade

1 Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions (CRE)
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET
(Tel: The appropriate direct dialling number is given in the final column of the table)

These divisions are responsible for the negotiation and administration of commercial treaties and trade arrangements and are able to answer inquiries of a general nature.

2 Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR)
Export House
50 Ludgate Hill
London EC4M 7HU
(Tel: 01-248 5757 – The appropriate telephone extension is given in the final column of the table)

OTAR can given you precise and up-to-date information on the tariffs and customs regulations of overseas countries, including import duties, additional taxes that may affect imported goods, import licensing regulations and restrictions including import quotas; certificates of origin; consular invoices and fees; labelling and marking requirements; foodstuffs, drugs and pharmaceuticals and the import of samples. It also provides information, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on health regulations for livestock, meat, animal products and plants and seeds; and almost all legislation which affects the entry of British goods into overseas countries.

3 General Division
Kingsgate House
66-74 Victoria Street
London SW1E 6SJ
Tel: 01-215 5490 (UK tariff quotas)

General Division *contd.*

01-215 5488 (UK import duties – the appropriate direct dialling number is given in the final column of the table)
01-215 5750 (origin rules)

HM Customs
HM Customs and Excise (HM C and Ex)
King's Beam House
39-41 Mark Lane
London EC3R 7HE
(Tel: 01-626 1515 – The appropriate extension is given in the final column of the table)

EEC environmental measures relating to industry

Check-list of draft and finalised proposals

This is the third published status list of those EEC environmental measures or proposals which should generally be of interest to industry (previous lists were published in *Trade and Industry* of 11 April 1975 and of 29 August 1975 – proposals covered there are not listed here). This list covers the period 1 August 1975 to 31 December 1975.

The terminology employed in the list is largely self explanatory. The designation 'proposal' signifies that this is the version of the draft as formally submitted to the council by the commission; the terms* Council Directive, Recommendation, Resolution and Decision refer to the eventual end product – the text finally agreed by member states.

The texts of adopted EEC directives and regulations are published in the 'L' (Legislation) series of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* and the texts of commission proposals in the 'C' (Information and Notices) series. Thus texts will be eventually published twice – firstly in proposal form in the 'C' series and later in final form in the 'L' series.

Readers requiring information on community work on environmental protection and improvement, as it relates to industry, should initially contact the appropriate Whitehall sponsoring division in the normal way. Readers will generally find that their trade association is fully up-to-date with events on the community front.

We shall publish the next list in July 1976, to cover the period 1 January 1976 to 30 June 1976.

* Articles 189-192 Treaty of Rome explain the meaning of these terms.

Subject	Status (where applicable)
Adopting research programmes for the EEC on the protection of the environment	Council Decision of 25 August 1975 amending Decisions No. 73/126/EEC and No. 73/174/EEC (OJ 2/9/75 Vol. 18 No. L231)
Adopting an EEC research programme for the protection of the environment (indirect project)	Council Decision of 25 August 1975 amending Decision No. 73/180/EEC (OJ 2/9/75 Vol. 18 No. L231)
Relating to the quality of water for human consumption	Proposal for a Council Directive (OJ 18/9/75 Vol. 18 No. C214)
On waste from the Titanium Dioxide industry	Proposal for a Council Directive (OJ 29/9/75 Vol. 18 No. C222)
Adopting a research programme for the EEC in the field of environment (indirect action)	Proposal for a Council Decision (OJ 29/9/75 Vol. 18 No. C222)
Concluding the Agreement for the implementation of a European project on nuisances on the subject 'Research on the Physio-Chemical behaviour of Sulphur Dioxide in the Atmosphere' (project 61A)	Proposal for a Council Decision OJ 29/9/75 Vol. 18 No. C222)
Concluding the Agreement for the implementation of a European project on nuisances on the subject 'Analysis of organic micro-pollutants in water' (project 64B)	Proposal for a Council Decision (OJ 29/9/75 Vol. 18 No. C222)
Concluding the European Convention for the protection of international water courses against pollution	Economic and Social Committee Opinion on the Proposal for a Council Decision (OJ 29/10/75 Vol. 18 No. C248)
Establishing a common procedure for the reciprocal exchange of information between the surveillance and monitoring networks based on data relating to atmospheric pollution by sulphur compounds and suspended particulates	Economic and Social Committee Opinion on the Proposal for a Council Decision (OJ 29/10/75 Vol. 18 No. C248)
Concerning a revised list of second category pollutants to be studied as part of the Programme of Action on the environment	Economic and Social Committee Opinion on the draft Council Resolution (OJ 29/10/75 Vol. 18 No. C248)
On the reduction of water pollution caused by woodpulp mills in the Member States	Economic and Social Committee Opinion on the Proposal for a Council Directive (OJ 29/10/75 Vol. 18 No. C248)
On the collection, regeneration and/or destruction of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBS)	Economic and Social Committee Opinion on the Proposal for a Council Directive (OJ 17/11/75 Vol. 18 No. C263)
Establishing a common procedure for the preparation and constant up-dating of a European inventory of sources of information on the environment	Economic and Social Committee Opinion on the Proposal for a Council Directive (OJ 17/11/75 Vol. 18 No. C263)
On the approximation of the laws of Member States relating to: constructional plant and equipment; the measurement of the sound level of constructional plant and equipment; the permissable sound level for pneumatic concrete breakers and jackhammers	Economic and Social Committee Opinion on the Proposal for a Council Directive (OJ 17/11/75 Vol. 18 No. C263)
On the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of Member States relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of pesticides	Economic and Social Committee Opinion on the Proposal for a Council Directive (OJ 17/11/75 Vol. 18 No. C263)
On the approximation of the laws of Member States relating to ceramic articles intended to come into contact with food (limitation of extractable quantities of lead and cadmium)	Economic and Social Committee Opinion on the Proposal for a Council Directive (OJ 17/11/75 Vol. 18 No. C263)
On the approximation of the laws of Member States relating to the sulphur content of certain liquid fuels	Council Directive of 24 November 1975 (OJ 27/11/75 Vol. 18 No. L307)
Relating to pollution of sea water and fresh water for bathing (quality objectives)	Economic and Social Committee Opinion on the Proposal for a Council Directive (OJ 15/12/75 No. C286)

Listed below are proposals known to be in preparation but not yet sent to the Council

Criteria and quality standards for SO2 and particulates (Directive).
Criteria and quality standards for CO2 (Directive).
Sampling and measurement methods for quality of surface waters for drinking (Directive).
Quality of water for freshwater fish (Directive).
Quality of seawater for shellfish (Directive).
Approximation of laws on acoustic nuisances due to aircraft (Directive).
Sulphur content of fuel oils (Directive).
Negotiation of conventions on prevention of marine pollution from exploitation of the sea bed (Decision).
Disposal of toxic and dangerous wastes (Decision).

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,472	9,380	2,130	2,090							
Series in						£ million				£ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	450	325	68	−30	735	−12	747
1971	102	103	102	93	104	70	−148	52	−10	1,048	282	766
1972	104	109	104	82	117	−5	−175	48	−11	128	−690	818
1973	110	114	107	88	125	960	396	102	334	−835	−2,295	1,460
1974	110	114	105	98	113	553	666	81	−68	−3,668	−5,234	1,566
1975										−1,687	−3,211	1,524
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	109	86	130	353	166	37	51	−125	−329	204
2nd qtr.	109	113	104	83	118	274	88	3	185	−63	−388	325
3rd qtr.	110	115	107	92	120	155	46	29	47	−217	−583	366
4th qtr	109	115	107	89	132	178	96	32	51	−430	−995	565
1974 1st qtr	106	113	108	97	112	−174	−31	18	−59	−845	−1,272	427
2nd qtr.	110	112	100	96	110	274	191	43	27	−948	−1,336	388
3rd qtr.	112	114	103	97	119	359	368	3	−14	−823	−1,199	376
4th qtr.	111	115	107	101	113	94	139	17	−22	−1,052	−1,427	375
1975 1st qtr.	110	116	105	93	102	−171	−4	−31	−57	−425	−860	435
2nd qtr.	107	114	103	87	100	−288	−112	−54	−52	−337	−678	341
3rd qtr.	107	112	107	82	102	−157	−211	−25	60	−577	−965	388
4th qtr.										−348	−708	360 **
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	−3.0	−2.2	−1.2	−13.3	−6.4							
on a year earlier	−3.6	−0.3	+3.5	−12.7	−11.7							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs (NOT seasonally adjusted)					Labour (UK)			Trade	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales*	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Exports	Imports
				monthly averages									On a balance of payments basis	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan. 1974		1970	1970	July 1972					
£m in base year			15,895											
Series in				thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million at current prices	
1971	100.5	99.7	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	775.8	3.4	130.9	8,810	8,528
1972	102.6	102.4	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	855.0	3.7	147.3	9,140	9,830
1973	110.3	110.9	110.7	137.3	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2	115.6	611.0	2.6	307.0	11,771	14,066
1974	106.3	107.8	109.9	102.7	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	600.3⌀	2.6⌀	302.7⌀	15,886	21,120
1975				97.2	134.8	24.2	235.3 p	188.7 p	179.7 p	929.3	4.0	148.2⌀	18,783p	21,994 p
1974 1st qtr.	104.4	106.5	109.8	103	101.4	12.9	212.5	138.3	125.0	572.9	2.5	288.6	3,490	4,762
2nd qtr.	107.9	109.4	107.3	104	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.3	579.4	2.5	313.0	3,996	5,332
3rd qtr.	108.3	109.6	111.0	109	110.2	17.0	212.9	156.1	144.0	621.2	2.7	310.1	4,231	5,430
4th qtr.	104.8	105.7	111.6	96	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..	4,169	5,596
1975 1st qtr.	104.8	106.1	111.5	108	122.0	20.3	220.9	176.0	163.6	733.3	3.2	..	4,534	5,395
2nd qtr.	100.2	100.4	108.7	92	133.6	24.3	225.6	186.3	176.3	849.7	3.7	159.8	4,464	5,142
3rd qtr.	100 0	100.1	105.3	105	139.4	26.6	239.3	193.4	185.4	1008.5	4.3	135.2	4,642	5,607
4th qtr.			105.9 p	84	144.2	25.3	255.5 p	199.1 p	193.6 p	1125.6	4.8	119.4 p	5,143 p	5,851 p
1975 Jan.	105.5	107.7	113.0	111	119.9	19.9	222.1	173.0	159.8	709.0 e	3.0 e	..	1,510	1,926
Feb.	105.2	106.9	112.3	114	121.9	19.5	218.8	175.9	162.0	736.7	3.2	196.3	1,479	1,815
Mar.	103.6	103.8	109.4	98	124.3	21.2	221.9	179.2	169.0	754.1	3.2	189.7	1,545	1,654
Apr.	101.5	101.7	120.2	90	129.1	21 7	222.9	182.5	170.1	794.2	3.4	176.5	1,366	1,725
May	99.4	99.4	102.5	91	134.5	25.0	226.2	187.3	176.4	853.5	3.7	158.6	1,613	1.689
June	99.7	100.0	104.5	96	137.1	26 1	227.7	189.0	182.5	901.4	3.9	144.4	1,484	1,728
July	100.6	100.9	104.7	90	138.5	26.3	233.2	191.7	184.7	976.5	4.2	131 6	1,564	1,926
Aug.	98.8	98.9	104.9	93	139.3	26.9	241.4	193.5	185.5	1008.8	4.3	136.7	1,492	1,875
Sept.	100.5	100.5	106.0	131	140.5	26.6	243.2	194.9	185.9	1040.1	4.5	137.4	1,586	1,806
Oct.	101.7	101.5	105.3	85	142.5	25.9	251.7 p	197.0	187.3	1088.5	4.7	126.2	1,739	1,961
Nov.	101.8	101.5	105.9	84	144.2	25.2	256.1 p	198.8 p	195.4	1125.3	4.8	117.3	1,637	1,924
Dec.			106½ p	84	146.0	24.9	258.6 p	201.4 p	198.0 p	1163.2	5.0	114.8	1,767 p	1,966 p
1976 Jan.										1205.5 p	5.2	109.2		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	+1.6	+1.2	+0.6	−19.6	+3.4		+6.8	+2.9	+4.4	+11.4		−14.7	+11	+4½
on a year earlier	−4.6	−5.5	−5.1	−11.9	+25.3		+15.0	+20.7	+26.1	..		..	+23	+4½

p Provisional * After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100 .. not available
⌀ Average of 11 months e Figure is estimate ** Figure is projection

Index of industrial production for November 1975

Latest estimates suggest that, after the sharp decline earlier in the year, industrial output has now at least levelled out.

The provisional estimate for the total index in November 1975 is 101.8 and for manufacturing alone, it is 101.5 (1970 = 100).

The average level of the all-industries' index in September to November was 1½ per cent above its level in the preceding three months; over the same period the average level of the index for manufacturing industry increased by 1 per cent. A market sector analysis shows that over the same period intermediate goods industries' output has risen sharply, although investment and consumer goods industries' output is still fairly depressed.

Many of the series used in compiling the index of production, in particular for manufacturing industry, measure deliveries rather than production. Deliveries and production in a month may differ because of movements in stocks. The use of such series resulted in the all-industries' index understating the level of output by about ¼ per cent in the first quarter and overstating the level of output in the second and third quarters by about ½ per cent and about ¾ per cent respectively. The decline in output between the two latest quarters was thus about ¼ per cent greater than the figures in the table indicate.

On a longer-term comparison, the all-industries' index in the latest three months was about 6½ per cent below its level in the third quarter of 1974; the corresponding fall for manufacturing industry was about 7½ per cent.

The index numbers in this article and in the table are all seasonally adjusted. The seasonal adjustment process is designed to remove annually recurring month-to-month variations due, for example, to the incidence of holidays.

About two-thirds of the index of production is derived by the revaluation to the prices of 1970 of data expressed at current prices. When the rate of change of prices is relatively large, or itself changes rapidly, the problems associated with this revaluation become more acute. For this reason the estimates for periods since about the end of 1973 should be regarded as subject to wider margins of error than in earlier years.

The index numbers for all industries and for total manufacturing for October have both been revised upwards by about ½ per cent because of the inclusion of later information.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half	* five week period
the final digit shown	• fifty-three week
p provisional	period

Manufacturers' stocks in November

It is estimated that there was no change in manufacturers' stocks at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted in November. Stocks of finished goods may have risen somewhat with offsetting falls in stocks of materials and fuel and work in progress.

Monthly figures from January 1975 are shown below.

		£ million, 1970 prices seasonally adjusted
1975	January	No change
	February	+40
	March	−40
	April	No change
	May	−10
	June	−100
	July	−60
	August	−50
	September	−100
	October	−90
	November	No change

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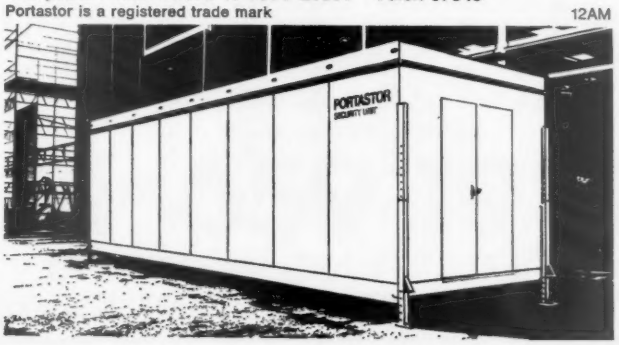

Index of industrial production

Seasonally adjusted

1970 = 100

	Total all industries	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing industries												
			Total	Food, drink and tobacco					Engineering and allied industries						
				Total	Food	Drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products	Chemicals and allied industries	Total	Mechanical engineering	Instrument engineering	Electrical engineering	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	Total vehicles	Metal goods n.e.s.
Weights	1,000	37	745	84	52	32	7	58	319	100	15	67	16	73	48
1971	100.5	99.7	99.7	100.6	99.9	101.7	103.4	102.1	99.4	100.1	100.8	102.6	96.6	99.4	93.6
1972	102.6	84.0	102.4	105.0	104.2	106.4	102.6	108.1	100.0	95.0	93.0	110.2	91.8	103.7	95.7
1973	110.3	93.6	110.9	109.4	106.4	114.2	110.0	121.5	107.9	103.7	101.7	125.2	95.1	105.1	103.1
1974	106.3	82.1	107.8	110.1	105.0	118.7	106.1	127.6	105.6	103.4	104.9	120.6	99.4	98.6	102.4
1974 1st qtr.	104.4	56.8	106.5	113.3	108.3	121.4	102.2	125.7	102.6	100.8	100.7	119.0	97.3	92.6	101.1
2nd qtr.	107.9	89.5	109.4	109.5	105.8	115.5	112.0	128.2	106.6	108.0	106.5	120.0	98.0	100.4	105.4
3rd qtr.	108.3	90.8	109.6	109.7	104.8	117.8	104.6	131.7	107.9	104.5	106.0	124.6	100.3	102.2	103.3
4th qtr.	104.8	91.1	105.7	108.1	100.9	120.0	105.6	124.7	105.5	104.3	106.5	118.9	102.0	99.1	99.8
1975 1st qtr.	104.8	90.9	106.1	110.2	103.9	120.4	94.5	118.2	106.8	105.6	105.0	120.0	103.1	101.7	100.5
2nd qtr.	100.2	88.2	100.4	108.5	102.9	117.7	92.5	112.5	101.1	104.4	106.0	112.8	103.2	91.3	90.2
3rd qtr.	100.0	87.9	100.1	111.4	105.4	121.3	92.6	115.7	99.5	100.7	100.1	111.1	102.9	93.9	87.7
1974 Oct.	105.7	91	106.3	108	101	119	107	128	105	104	106	120	101	98	101
Nov.	105.5	91	106.7	108	101	120	107	125	106	104	107	119	103	101	102
Dec.	103.0	91	104.1	108	101	121	102	121	105	104	107	118	102	98	96
1975 Jan.	105.5	89	107.7	113	105	126	101	123	108	106	106	121	104	106	103
Feb.	105.2	91	106.9	110	104	120	94	121	107	106	105	120	103	102	99
Mar.	103.6	93	103.8	108	103	115	89	112	105	106	104	119	103	97	100
Apr.	101.5	91	101.7	107	100	120	91	115	103	105	107	115	103	97	92
May	99.4	88	99.4	108	104	115	96	109	99	104	106	113	103	85	89
Jun.	99.7	86	100.0	110	105	119	90	113	100	104	105	111	104	91	89
Jul.	100.6	87	100.9	111	106	121	88	115	101	102	101	111	103	98	90
Aug.	98.3	88	98.9	110	104	118	96	112	99	100	100	111	103	92	86
Sept.	100.5	88	100.5	113	106	125	94	120	99	100	99	101	102	92	87
Oct.	101.7	92	101.5	112	107	120	94	120	99	100	99	111	106	91	90
Nov.	101.8	94	101.5	113	109	119	93	119	100	101	96	112	105	94	90
% change latest 3 months on previous 3 months	+1.6	+4.9	+1.2	+1.8	+2.0	+1.6	+2.3	+5.4	−0.7	−1.6	−3.6	+0.6	+0.9	−1.8	+1.2
on a year earlier	−4.6	+0.9	−5.5	+3.5	+4.7	+1.7	−12.8	−6.8	−6.4	−3.8	−7.7	−7.7	+2.3	−6.2	−12.4

	Manufacturing industries (continued)												Construction	Gas, electricity and water
	Metal manufacture			Textiles, leather and clothing				Bricks, pottery, glass, etc.						
	Total	Ferrous	Non-ferrous	Total	Textiles	Leather, leather goods and fur	Clothing and footwear	Total	Bricks, cement, etc.	Pottery and glass	Timber, furniture, etc.	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries		
Weights	57	43	14	76	49	3	24	27	17	10	22	64	31	146	72
1971	91.3	89.8	95.8	102.3	100.7	103.0	105.4	107.7	106.3	109.8	103.0	97.3	99.7	102.9	103.9
1972	91.4	89.4	97.3	104.6	103.1	104.5	107.8	114.2	113.6	115.3	113.5	102.6	104.2	104.5	111.2
1973	100.0	97.3	108.5	110.1	108.6	101.0	114.6	127.9	126.8	129.5	132.6	112.1	116.5	107.6	118.1
1974	91.7	87.7	104.2	103.1	99.2	96.3	112.2	117.4	109.4	129.3	112.4	108.8	114.3	98.4	119.7
1974 1st qtr.	91.0	86.3	105.4	100.5	98.1	96.8	105.3	118.7	109.5	133.1	117.1	108.8	112.7	102.3	118.9
2nd qtr.	91.5	86.5	107.1	107.5	104.9	100.0	113.8	120.4	113.7	130.9	116.6	112.4	118.5	99.4	119.2
3rd qtr.	95.0	91.7	105.3	105.2	100.9	95.0	115.4	117.3	110.7	127.6	110.7	109.9	117.3	98.4	123.8
4th qtr.	89.4	86.3	99.0	99.6	93.0	93.3	114.2	113.0	104.9	125.6	104.8	104.1	108.6	93.7	124.1
1975 1st qtr.	91.5	89.5	97.7	101.1	94.6	89.3	115.9	112.9	104.8	125.5	110.6	100.2	110.4	93.9	119.8
2nd qtr.	73.3	68.3	88.8	99.6	95.1	91.5	109.9	104.5	99.7	112.2	111.1	95.8	100.5	93.0	119.3
3rd qtr.	71.3	66.0	87.7	100.1	93.5	84.5	115.9	104.5	102.3	108.0	108.0	93.3	105.7	95.1	114.9
1974 Oct.	87	82	104	103	98	93	115	113	104	127	105	106	113		132
Nov.	90	85	104	101	95	93	115	114	106	127	106	105	112		124
Dec.	92	92	89	95	85	93	113	112	105	123	104	101	100		116
1975 Jan.	91	87	105	102	94	89	119	113	107	123	111	100	114		114
Feb.	95	95	95	101	95	89	116	115	106	128	112	102	113		118
Mar.	88	87	93	100	94	89	113	111	101	126	109	98	104		127
Apr.	80	76	92	97	94	91	106	106	100	115	111	97	98		122
May	70	66	85	100	96	91	111	105	99	115	111	97	100		118
Jun.	70	63	90	101	96	91	113	103	101	106	112	93	103		117
Jul.	72	66	91	101	94	85	117	101	102	100	110	95	105		116
Aug.	73	69	87	100	94	84	115	103	96	113	107	92	98		112
Sept.	69	64	85	100	93	84	116	110	109	111	107	92	114		117
Oct.	80	76	92	100	95	83	113	110	107	115	110	95	107		122
Nov.	78	74	91	99	97	83	108	111	108	115	112	94	105		122
% change latest 3 months on previous 3 months	+5.6	+8.0	+0.3	−0.8	+0.3	−4.0	−2.5	+7.7	+8.4	+6.6	+0.2	+0.3	+6.6	+0.8	+4.9
on a year earlier	−14.1	−14.2	−13.9	−2.6	−2.3	−11.0	−2.0	−3.9	+1.4	−10.8	+3.3	−11.5	−5.7	−0.1	−5.1

Foreign arrivals in the United Kingdom during October 1975

During October 537,000 foreign visitors, including all travellers from the EEC countries, arrived in the United Kingdom, according to figures issued jointly by the Department of Trade and the British Tourist Authority. (This figure excludes visitors from the Irish Republic and Commonwealth citizens.) This represents an increase of 9 per cent over October 1974, and a 10 per cent increase for the first ten months of 1975 over the corresponding period of 1974.

Arrivals from the EEC countries in October at 277,000 were 14 per cent above last year, with the largest increases being in the arrivals from Belgium and Luxembourg (25 per cent), Denmark (22 per cent), Italy (18 per cent), and the Netherlands (18 per cent). The first ten months of the year showed an increase for EEC arrivals of 13 per cent over 1974, with the greatest increases coming from Belgium and Luxembourg (18 per cent), Netherlands (17 per cent), Denmark (15 per cent) and France (14 per cent).

Arrivals from the rest of Western Europe during October increased by 11 per cent over October 1974 and by 17 per cent for the first 10 months. During October, Norway (33 per cent), Sweden (24 per cent) and Switzerland (16 per cent) showed the largest increases. Arrivals from Spain however fell 21 per cent due to political and economic uncertainties, including the temporary closure of the foreign exchange market: this was in marked contrast to the 24 per cent increase seen in the first nine months.

Foreign arrivals

Thousands per month

	Total arrivals from EEC countries (excluding Irish Republic)		Foreign visitors from non-EEC countries: Rest of Western Europe (non-EEC)		United States		Other foreign countries		Total non-EEC countries	
1967	126		30		70		23		123	
1968	144		34		73		29		136	
1969	174		40		95		35		170	
1970	199		47		117		41		205	
1971	214		53		129		46		228	
1972	232		59		134		51		244	
1973	265		70		131		62		263	
1974	280		75		107		68		250	
	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA
1974										
January	141	263	38	70	50	114	40	64	128	248
February	132	265	38	70	42	114	35	67	115	251
March	216	273	53	73	68	108	52	71	173	252
April	320	273	79	75	95	109	52	66	226	250
May	295	281	63	70	121	100	62	62	246	232
June	313	281	96	75	160	106	83	69	338	250
July	560	280	154	75	189	103	120	70	463	248
August	458	294	93	76	167	103	111	67	371	246
September	298	287	86	84	159	108	96	68	342	260
October	243	281	77	76	103	105	70	69	249	250
November	188	302	62	80	69	106	49	76	180	262
December	196	281	58	76	58	103	52	70	168	249
1975										
January	164	304	45	83	50	112	53	79	148	274
February	166	327	49	88	44	115	49	92	142	295
March	323	302	82	91	68	106	69	92	219	289
April	264	301	69	81	82	92	61	75	212	248
May	346	312	79	83	114	93	70	69	263	245
June	345	307	109	84	143	93	89	74	340	249
July	631	312	178	86	178	96	142	83	498	265
August	512	322	116	93	148	92	137	85	400	270
September	323	312	96	93	143	97	103	74	342	264
October	277	323	85	85	98	100	76	77	260	262
November										
December										
Jan.-Oct. 1974	2,977		778		1,152		719		2,649	
Jan.-Oct. 1975	3,351		908		1,066		849		2,823	

Total arrivals – all persons admitted, including long-stay and short-stay visitors from EEC countries

Foreign visitors – all persons entering for visits of under one year from non-EEC countries excluding Commonwealth countries.

UA – unadjusted. SA – seasonally adjusted. Source: Home Office.

The number of visitors from the rest of the world during October increased by 9 per cent compared with the same period last year. Numbers of visitors fell from the United States by 4 per cent, from Japan by 10 per cent and from South Africa by 8 per cent. These however were compensated for by a 17 per cent increase from the rest of the non sterling countries.

Notes

The figures in the table are limited to foreign nationals, excluding Commonwealth citizens and citizens of the Irish Republic.

For non-EEC countries visitors entering for a stay of under one year are shown while, for EEC countries, total arrivals are shown irrespective of their purposes of visit or length of stay. This follows the entry of the United Kingdom into the EEC, since when citizens of Community countries are generally admitted to the United Kingdom without having to state their purpose of visit, or expected length of stay.

Seasonally adjusted figures: Simple comparisons of monthly figures between one year and another, or between adjacent months can be misleading. The seasonally adjusted figures provide a better basis for comparison with other months, or for judging current trends. In estimating the seasonal adjustments allowance has been made for changes in the seasonal pattern, which have been in the direction of a spreading of the tourist season, with some reduction in the summer peak relative to the rest of the year. Adjustment was also made for the effect of the varying date of Easter on numbers of Western European visitors. The seasonally adjusted series are liable to revision when subsequent figures become available and should therefore, for the most recent months, be viewed with caution.

Figures of all tourist arrivals and departures in the first three quarters of 1975, based on the Department of Trade's International Passenger Survey, were published in *Trade and Industry*, 23 January. The figures covered both foreign and Commonwealth visitors, and summary tables showing mode of travel and purpose of visit were included.

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Engineering sales and orders (SIC Orders VII, VIII, and IX) up to October

The provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume index numbers of engineering sales and orders to October 1975 are contained in the accompanying table.

Following a period of continuous decline in the trend of total sales from the autumn of 1974 to the middle of 1975, there has been some abatement in the rate of decrease in recent months, in consequence of higher domestic deliveries in the last month or two. Latest figures suggest that the trend of total net new orders may still have been declining slightly in recent months but have been relatively steady since the beginning of 1975 following the rapid rate of fall in new orders received experienced throughout 1974. The recent inflow of

Index numbers for the combined engineering industries (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX) (a)

Volume index numbers: Orders-on-hand. December 1970 unadjusted = 100 Net new orders and sales, 1970 average monthly sales = 100

	Total			Home			Export		
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New net orders	Sales
Trend estimates									
1974 January	134	124	110	134	117	112	136	140	104
February	136	120	109	134	113	111	139	138	106
March	137	117	110	134	110	110	143	135	108
April	137	115	110	134	108	111	145	131	110
May	138	113	112	133	108	112	147	126	112
June	137	112	113	132	109	112	147	120	114
July	137	110	113	132	108	112	147	114	116
August	136	107	113	131	106	112	146	108	117
September	134	104	113	129	103	112	144	104	117
October	133	100	113	128	99	111	142	101	118
November	130	97	113	125	96	111	140	99	118
December	128	94	113	123	92	111	138	97	118
1975 January	125	92	113	120	91	110	135	95	118
February	122	91	112	117	90	110	132	94	117
March	119	92	111	114	90	109	129	94	117
April	117	92	110	112	90	107	127	96	116
May	115	92	109	109	89	106	125	99	116
June	112	91	107	107	88	104	123	101	115
July	110	91	107	104	86	103	122	101	114
August	108	90	106	102	86	103	120	101	113
September	106	90	106	100	85	103	119	100	112
October	104	89	106	98	84	104	118	99	111
Percentage change (b) July-October 1975	−5.0	−2.5	−1.0	−6.0	−2.5	—	−3.0	−2.5	−2.5
Seasonally adjusted									
1969	101	100	97	102	99	99	100	102	91
1970	100	99	100	100	99	100	100	100	100
1971	93	97	101	95	98	101	89	93	102
1972	99	103	101	103	108	105	90	91	92
1973	133	134	113	134	136	117	131	131	102
1974	128	109	111	123	105	111	139	118	113
1974 1st quarter	136	117	108	133	109	110	142	135	105
2nd quarter	138	117	112	133	112	111	148	128	113
3rd quarter	134	106	114	130	106	112	144	105	117
4th quarter	128	97	112	123	94	110	139	104	117
1975 1st quarter	119	89	112	114	89	110	128	89	118
2nd quarter	113	94	109	108	92	106	123	101	115
3rd quarter	106	90	106	100	86	103	118	100	113
1974 January	135	119	105	134	111	107	136	138	101
February	136	117	109	134	111	109	139	132	107
March	136	113	111	133	104	113	142	135	108
April	137	119	111	133	112	111	145	136	112
May	138	115	110	133	108	110	148	130	110
June	138	116	114	133	115	113	148	118	116
July	136	103	114	131	99	114	148	114	115
August	135	106	114	130	105	112	146	106	120
September	134	108	113	130	113	112	144	96	116
October	133	102	113	128	99	110	142	110	119
November	131	94	112	126	95	110	140	94	115
December	128	94	112	123	88	109	139	108	118
1975 January	124	86	114	119	85	112	135	88	119
February	122	97	113	117	98	111	132	95	118
March	119	85	110	114	85	108	128	85	117
April	116	94	112	111	94	111	126	95	115
May	115	100	107	110	94	104	126	115	115
June	113	88	106	108	86	103	123	93	115
July	109	84	109	104	77	105	121	100	120
August	108	93	102	102	86	99	121	111	109
September	106	93	108	100	95	107	118	88	111
October	103	87	107	96	80	105	117	102	111
May-July 1975 (av.)	109	91	107	104	86	104	121	102	116
Aug-Oct 1975 (av.)	103	91	106	96	87	104	117	100	110
Percentage change (b)	−5.5	—	−2.0	−7.0	+1.0	—	−3.0	−2.0	−5.0

(a) All figures are provisional.
(b) For orders on hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point.

new business is still much lower than current sales, however, and order books for combined engineering have continued to fall.

The trend in the volume of total sales decreased by 1 per cent between July and October with home sales unchanged and export sales falling by 2½ per cent. The recent levelling of the trend in sales to the home market follows a period of more than a year of continuous decline and reflects in part a recovery of sales in the electrical engineering industry; whereas the decline in sales to the export market is a further erosion since they were at their peak level of about a year ago.

There was a decline in the trend of net new orders of 2½ per cent between July and October with new orders to the home and export markets contributing equally to the decrease. The trend of new orders in the home market has fallen continuously over the past two years. A similar pattern has been in evidence in the export market, except for a period of recovery in new orders in the Summer of this year, which has since been slightly eroded.

With a higher level of sales than orders there was a further reduction in the trend of total orders-on-hand between July and October of 5 per cent with home orders-on-hand shortening by 6 per cent and export orders-on-hand by 3 per cent.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the Monthly Engineering Enquiry relating to October 1975. The response rate of 79 per cent to the enquiry for October is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for July, August and September response rates for these months were 89, 88 and 89 per cent respectively.

When using the volume index numbers and trends shown in the accompanying table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the values of engineering sales and orders to constant prices become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the volume estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months and studies are currently in hand to ascertain the possible directions and magnitudes of any biases, which may lead to revisions in due course.

Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders) is obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £2.10 per annum. Volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for each of the three SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX (mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering respectively).

Motor vehicle output in December 1975

Car output in the five weeks to 27 December was 117,431 (23,486 per week) 14 per cent below the December 1974 level. Commercial vehicle output of 33,512 (6,702 per week) was 17 per cent below the December 1974 level.

In the year as a whole, car output fell by 17 per cent. Within this total, production for export fell by 11 per cent while that for the home market fell by 22 per cent. Commercial vehicle output fell by 6 per cent. Within this overall movement, the number of commercial

TABLE 1 Recorded production

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and un-assembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery operated road vehicles are excluded.

Production for export may differ from actual exports as recorded in the Overseas Trade Statistics because of differences in timing and coverage.

		Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
	No. of weeks	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1967	52	988,273	563,740	1,552,013	29,846	245,692	139,414	385,106	7,406
1968	52	1,013,163	802,773	1,815,936	34,922	259,331	149,855	409,186	7,869
1969	53	892,758	824,315	1,717,073	32,398	272,998	192,778	465,776	8,788
1970	52	918,109	722,857	1,640,966	31,557	267,407	190,125	457,532	8,799
1971	52	1,027,462	714,478	1,741,940	33,499	268,278	187,928	456,206	8,773
1972	52	1,307,881	613,430	1,921,311	36,948	272,649	135,470	408,119	7,848
1973	52	1,142,216	605,105	1,747,321	33,602	257,574	159,049	416,623	8,012
1974	52	937,932	596,187	1,534,119	29,502	232,373	170,193	402,566	7,742
1975	52	734,414	531,931	1,266,345	24,353	193,774	185,503	379,277	7,294
1974 1st quarter	13	237,232	150,688	387,920	29,840	52,641	36,845	89,486	6,884
2nd quarter	13	275,355	164,041	439,396	33,800	63,122	46,063	109,185	8,399
3rd quarter	13	185,497	121,121	306,618	23,586	50,233	39,800	90,033	6,926
4th quarter	13	239,848	160,337	400,185	30,783	66,377	47,485	113,862	8,759
1975 1st quarter	13	242,571	139,736	382,307	29,408	61,402	46,808	108,210	8,324
2nd quarter	13	145,107	142,664	287,771	22,136	49,650	48,435	98,085	7,545
3rd quarter	13	151,830	117,925	269,755	20,750	39,136	38,724	77,860	5,989
4th quarter	13	194,906	131,606	326,512	25,116	43,586	51,536	95,122	7,317
1974 January	4	61,781	37,628	99,409	24,852	13,989	9,595	23,584	5,896
February	4	73,721	50,721	124,442	31,110	16,048	11,428	27,476	6,869
March	5	101,730	62,339	164,069	32,814	22,604	15,822	38,426	7,685
April	4	74,411	40,917	115,328	28,832	18,881	12,913	31,794	7,948
May	4	99,873	58,240	158,113	39,528	20,614	15,513	36,127	9,032
June	5	101,071	64,884	165,955	33,191	23,627	17,637	41,264	8,253
July	4	56,304	37,405	93,709	23,427	14,978	12,841	27,819	6,955
August	4	66,368	46,662	113,030	28,258	14,701	10,495	25,196	6,299
September	5	62,825	37,054	99,879	19,976	20,554	16,464	37,018	7,404
October	4	73,584	49,228	122,812	30,703	20,846	14,332	35,178	8,794
November	4	84,742	55,632	140,374	35,094	22,364	16,125	38,489	9,622
December	5	81,522	55,477	136,999	27,400	23,167	17,028	40,195	8,039
1975 January	4	79,301	46,278	125,579	31,395	19,997	14,429	34,426	8,606
February	4	84,826	43,032	127,858	31,964	19,669	15,619	35,288	8,822
March	5	78,444	50,426	128,870	25,774	21,736	16,760	38,496	7,699
April	4	57,260	48,895	106,155	26,539	16,866	14,418	31,284	7,821
May	4	35,750	36,423	72,173	18,043	15,879	16,070	31,949	7,987
June	5	52,097	57,346	109,443	21,888	16,905	17,947	34,852	6,970
July	4	39,303	32,345	71,648	17,912	10,995	12,480	23,475	5,869
August	4	40,219	38,525	78,744	19,686	10,117	10,271	20,388	5,097
September	5	72,308	47,055	119,363	23,873	18,024	15,973	33,997	6,799
October	4	60,873	36,246	97,119	24,280	14,964	16,352	31,316	7,829
November	4	65,941	46,021	111,962	27,991	13,994	16,300	30,294	7,574
December	5	68,092	49,339	117,431	23,486	14,628	18,884	33,512	6,702

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vehicles produced for export markets rose by 9 per cent while the number produced for the home market fell by 17 per cent.

(The summaries which follow are based on the seasonally adjusted figures in Table 2.)

Cars

Car production in December of 108 thousand units was 16 per cent below the 1974 monthly average. Production during the fourth quarter as a whole was 6 per cent below the rate of production in the third quarter, and 18 per cent below the average monthly rate in 1974. Compared with the 1974 average, production for export in the fourth quarter fell by 14 per cent while that for the home market fell by 21 per cent.

Commercial vehicles

December production of 29.4 thousand units was 12 per cent below the 1974 monthly average, while average production during the fourth quarter was 14 per cent below. Production for export in the fourth quarter was 12 per cent above the 1974 monthly average while production for the home market was 33 per cent lower.

TABLE 2 Production - seasonally adjusted

The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

MONTHLY AVERAGE — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1967	82	47	129	20.5	11.6	32.1
1968	84	67	151	21.6	12.5	34.1
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	14.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	50	145	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974	78	50	128	19.3	14.2	33.5
1975	61	44	105	16.1	15.5	31.6
1974 1st quarter	69	42	111	16.6	11.7	28.3
2nd quarter	85	47	132	19.6	14.2	33.8
3rd quarter	83	55	138	21.3	16.2	37.5
4th quarter	76	54	130	19.9	14.7	34.6
1975 1st quarter	76	42	118	20.0	15.4	35.4
2nd quarter	45	43	88	15.7	14.9	30.6
3rd quarter	62	50	112	16.0	15.6	31.6
4th quarter	62	43	105	13.0	15.9	28.9
1974 January	56	44	100	15.2	12.3	27.5
February	70	36	106	16.2	11.0	27.2
March	80	46	126	18.5	11.7	30.2
April	79	32	111	19.9	13.8	33.7
May	93	56	149	21.3	14.5	35.8
June	81	55	136	17.7	14.2	31.9
July	97	66	163	22.0	16.7	38.7
August	88	61	149	22.1	16.8	38.9
September	64	37	101	19.8	15.1	34.9
October	72	49	121	18.8	14.0	32.8
November	82	60	142	20.1	15.3	35.4
December	75	53	128	20.8	14.8	35.6
1975 January	78	52	130	21.5	17.3	38.8
February	84	35	119	20.1	15.6	35.7
March	65	39	104	18.3	13.3	31.6
April	60	45	105	17.3	15.0	32.3
May	34	35	69	16.3	15.2	31.5
June	42	48	90	13.5	14.5	28.0
July	66	55	121	15.9	16.2	32.1
August	51	49	100	14.9	16.0	30.9
September	69	45	114	17.2	14.6	31.8
October	59	35	94	13.4	15.9	29.3
November	64	48	112	12.5	15.4	27.9
December	62	46	108	13.0	16.5	29.4
Average of:						
July-Sept. 1975	62	50	112	16.0	15.6	31.6
Oct.-Dec. 1975	62	43	105	13.0	15.9	28.9
Percentage change	N/C	−14	−6	−19	+2	−9

Film registration statistics

Film Registration statistics issued on 22 January show the number of British, Community (EEC) and foreign films registered during 1975.

The total number of all category registrations was 541 compared with 670 in 1974, but this drop is partially accounted for by the fact that 52 fewer newsreels were registered in 1975.

The number of 'long' films (over 72 minutes playing time) fell from 402 in 1974 to 341.

A total of 70 British 'long' films were registered, eight less than in 1974). There was a notable reduction in registrations of Community (59 compared with 94 in 1974) and foreign 'long' films (212 compared with 230 in 1974).

TABLE 1 Films Acts 1960 to 1970 registration statistics for the year ended 31 December 1975 summary of registration

(Corresponding 1974 figures in brackets)

	Number of films				Registered playing time – (minutes)			
	British				British			
	Quota	Non-quota	Community	Foreign	Quota	Non-quota	Community	Foreign
Over 72 minutes	69 (a) (78)	1 (—)	59 (94)	212 (230)	6,647 (7,451)	85 (—)	5,684 (9,123)	20,706 (21,760)
33½ to 72 minutes	13 (13)	— (1)	9 (9)	16 (13)	679 (625)	— (51)	558 (624)	977 (808)
Under 33½ minutes	69 (b) (72)	— (—)	1 (4)	38 (52)	1,276 (1,423)	— (—)	18 (58)	467 (598)
Newsreels	54 (104)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	435 (777)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)

(a) Includes one film made under the British-Italian Co-production Agreement, one made under the British-French Co-production Agreement, two made under the British-German Co-production Agreement, four films from Australia one from Canada and two from Hong Kong.
(b) Includes two UK films and one from Canada all of which were made by Government Departments and two films from Australia one of which was made by a Government Department.

TABLE 2 Countries of origin of foreign and community films registered

* Includes five films made by UK Companies and two by Commonwealth Companies; application was not made for British registration.
† Films made by UK Companies; application was not made for British registration.

	Playing time					
	Over 72 minutes		33½-72 minutes		Under 33½ minutes	
Countries of origin	Foreign	Community	Foreign	Community	Foreign	Community
Austria	2	–	–	–	–	–
Belgium	–	–	–	1	–	–
Bulgaria	–	–	–	–	4	–
Canada	2	–	–	–	–	–
Czechoslovakia	–	–	1	–	1	–
Denmark	–	1	–	–	–	–
Finland	1	–	–	–	–	–
France	4	8	–	5	–	1
Germany (Fed. Rep.)	4	11	–	3	1	–
Greece	1	–	–	–	–	–
Holland	–	1	–	–	–	–
Hong Kong	10	–	–	–	–	–
Hungary	1	–	1	–	–	–
India	1	–	–	–	–	–
Israel	2	–	–	–	–	–
Italy	10	18	–	–	1	–
Japan	4	–	–	–	–	–
Liechtenstein	3	–	–	–	–	–
Malaysia	–	–	–	–	1	–
Mexico	2	–	–	–	–	–
Poland	1	–	–	–	–	–
Singapore	1	–	–	–	1	–
South Africa	2	–	–	–	2	–
Spain	2	–	–	–	–	–
Sweden	4	–	–	–	–	–
Switzerland	4	–	1	–	–	–
Taiwan – Rep. of China	1	–	–	–	–	–
USA	131	–	9	–	12	–
USSR	5	–	2	–	9	–
Yugoslavia	–	–	1	–	–	–
JOINT PRODUCTIONS						
France/Belgium	–	2	–	–	–	–
France/Italy	–	10	–	–	–	–
France/Italy/Spain	–	1	–	–	–	–
France/W Germany/Italy	–	3	–	–	–	–
Hungary/USSR	1	–	–	–	–	–
Italy/Spain	3	1	–	–	–	–
Italy/W Germany	–	2	–	–	–	–
Italy/Yugoslavia	1	–	–	–	–	–
UK/US	1	–	–	–	–	–
USA/Mexico	1	–	–	–	–	–
USSR/India	–	–	1	–	–	–
W Germany/Israel	–	1	–	–	–	–
Others	7*	–	–	–	6†	–
TOTALS	212	59	16	9	38	1

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 23 January 1976.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Movietone News 2433	BR/E 38341/24/1/81	8	23 January	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
The Counsellor	EC 38426/24/1/81	103	20 January	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd.	Capitolina Produzioni Cinematografiche, Italy and Star Film, Madrid
The 8 Wheel Beast	EC 38427/24/1/81	98	20 January	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd.	Compagnia Cinematografica Champion, Rome and Productions et Editiones Cinematographiques Francaises, Paris
			FOREIGN		
Death Blow	F 38423	80	19 January	Ranworth Film Services Ltd.	Emperor Films, Hong Kong
Man Friday	F 38424	109	20 January	Fox Rank Distributors Ltd.	Keep Films Ltd., London
The White Dawn	F 38425	90	20 January	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Martin Ransohoff Productions Inc., California
The Best of Walt Disney's True-Life Adventures	F 38428	89	22 January	Walt Disney Productions Ltd.	Walt Disney Productions, California

Correction to the Register:
The name and address of the maker of the film 'The Sunshine Boys' (F 38385) registered on 18 December 1975 has been corrected to MGM Incorporated, California.

Regional Development Grant payments

The following table lists the companies which have received one or more payments of Regional Development Grant of over £25,000 in the quarter ended 30 June 1975. The table is drawn up on a regional basis according to the locations of the premises in respect of which the grants were paid. The amounts shown against each premises are in some cases individual payments and in some cases the total of a number of separate payments each individually exceeding £25,000.

Previous lists named the 'users' as the recipients of the grant but experience has shown that this can be misleading, eg in cases where a leasing company or development corporation claims a grant for buildings or equipment let to the 'user'. Therefore in future the name shown will be that of the actual applicant/payee.

(Earlier lists appeared in *Trade and Industry* on 5 September and 19 September 1975).

Name of company	Place of premises	Grant (£ 000)
SOUTH WEST		
Amey Roadstone Corporation Ltd.	Penzance	66
Cornwall Tin and Mining	Truro	29
ECC Quarries Ltd.	Launceston	74
English Clays Lovering Pochin and Co. Ltd.	St. Austell	26
WEST MIDLANDS		
Dart Cash Carrier Co. Ltd.	Stoke-on-Trent	25
Twyfords Ltd.	Stoke-on-Trent	79
EAST MIDLANDS		
Field Estates Co. Ltd.	Nottingham	25
Lester, J (Developments) Ltd.	Nottingham	25
Lucas, T. and Co. Ltd.	Gainsborough	38
Richards and Wallington Industries Ltd.	Alfreton	26
William Lawrence and Co. Ltd.	Nottingham	33
YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE		
Associated Weavers Ltd.	Bradford	130
British Steel Corporation	Scunthorpe (Appleby-Frodingham)	263
British Steel Corporation	Rotherham (Aldwarke)	100
Brown Bayley Steels Ltd.	Sheffield	244
Dunford Hadfields Ltd	Sheffield	48
Eastwood, W. and J. B. Ltd.	Pontefract	30
Freezing and Cold Store Services Ltd.	Doncaster	40
Gerrard Industries Ltd.	Rotherham	80
Henry Williamson Ltd.	Brough	30
Hirst Buckley Ltd.	Huddersfield	44
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Harrogate	47
Jepsen and Co. Ltd.	Sheffield	27
Johnson and Johnson Ltd.	Skipton	47
Lin-Pac Plastics Ltd.	Pontefract	31
Mansfield Hosiery Mills Ltd.	Hull	90
Meritina Ltd.	Rotherham	46
Miers, W. and H. Ltd.	Leeds	25
Oak Brick Co. Ltd.	Sheffield	37
Rank Precision Industries Ltd.	Leeds	64
The Rugby Portland Cement Co. Ltd.	Barton-on-Humber	205
Smith and Nephew Plastics Ltd.	Brough	27
Stonehouse, MP Ltd.	Wakefield	27
Teasdale and Metcalfe Ltd.	Wetherby	30
Thorn Consumer Electronics (Bradford) Ltd.	Bradford	70
Thorp Arch Trading Estate Ltd.	Wetherby	27
Tinsley Wire Industries Ltd.	Sheffield	134
Treat Products Ltd.	Leeds	30
Winster Hose Ltd.	Whitby	26
Yorkshire Chemicals Ltd.	Leeds	62
NORTH WEST		
Associated Biscuits Ltd.	Liverpool	63
The Associated Octel Co. (Plant) Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	203
Barwick, E. T. Mills Ltd.	Bolton	62
Bass Ltd.	Runcorn	365
BICC Ltd.	Prescot (Merseyside)	64
BICC Ltd.	Warrington	168
BOC Hydros Products Ltd.	Bromborough Port (Wirral)	26
Borg Textiles Ltd.	Winsford	50
Bowater Packaging Ltd.	Disley (Cheshire)	44
British Aircraft Corporation Ltd.	Preston	28
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Liverpool	25
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd.	Chester	66
The British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co. Ltd.	Birkenhead	61
British Sidac Ltd.	St. Helens	67
Burmah Oil Trading Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	168
Cadbury Schweppes Foods Ltd.	Moreton (Wirral)	141
Cammell Laird Shipbuilders Ltd.	Birkenhead	29
Connollys (Blackley) Ltd.	Kirkby	30
Courtaulds Ltd.	Liverpool	64
Croxden Gravel Ltd.	Burnley	35
Electric Power Storage Ltd.	Manchester	33
Fibreglass Ltd.	St. Helens	167
Ford Motor Co. Ltd.	Liverpool	138
Frederic Robinson Ltd.	Stockport	88
Girling Ltd.	Bromborough (Wirral)	26
Heinz, H. J. Co. Ltd.	Wigan	56
Henry and Leigh Slater Ltd.	Macclesfield	30
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Runcorn (Castner-Kellner)	1,587
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Runcorn (Rocksavage)	49
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Runcorn (Weston Point)	40
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Widnes	39
Ingersoll-Rand Co. Ltd.	Hindley Green (Nr. Wigan)	90
International Property Development	Kirkby	29
Leigh, W. and J. and Co. Ltd.	Bolton	31
Lloyds Leasing Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	579
Lombard North Central Leasing Ltd.	Widnes	44
Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co.	Wallasey (Merseyside)	41
Metal Box Ltd.	Speke	25
Nalfloc Ltd.	Northwich (Cheshire)	51
The Peerless Refining Co. (Liverpool) Ltd.	Bootle	30
Pilkington Bros. Ltd.	St. Helens	168
The Ravenhead Co. Ltd.	St. Helens	26
Reece, S. and Sons Ltd.	Liverpool	31
RHM Blue Cross Ltd.	Birkenhead	37
Samuel Courtauld and Co. Ltd.	Nelson	42
Shell Chemicals (UK) Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	137
Shell (UK) Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	75
Storey Bros. and Co. Ltd.	Morecambe	52
Telefusion Ltd.	Bolton	27
Tithebarn Products Ltd.	Winsford	30
U. G. Glass Containers Ltd.	St. Helens	118
United Biscuits Ltd.	Liverpool	168
Vauxhall Motors Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	31
Ward Blenkinsop and Co. Ltd.	Widnes	39
Wellcome Foundation Ltd.	Crewe	49
Yorkshire Imperial Metals Ltd.	Kirkby	38
NORTHERN		
Albright and Wilson Ltd.	Whitehaven	165
Black and Decker Ltd.	Spennymoor	82
Bowater-Scott Corporation Ltd.	Barrow-in-Furness	267
BP Trading Ltd.	Middlesbrough	1,116
British Chrome and Chemicals Ltd.	Stockton-on-Tees	29
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd.	Seascale	367
British Oxygen Chemicals Ltd.	Birtley	25
British Sidac Ltd.	Wigton (Cumbria)	32
British Steel Corporation	Consett	148
British Steel Corporation	Middlesbrough (Cleveland)	26
British Steel Corporation	Middlesbrough (Lackenby)	205
British Steel Corporation	Redcar	3,748
British Titan Products Co. Ltd.	Billingham	39
British Titan Products Co. Ltd.	Hartlepool	73
Burgess Micro Switch Co. Ltd.	Gateshead	29
Cameron, J. W. and Co. Ltd.	Hartlepool	30
Caterpillar Tractor Co. Ltd.	Chester-le-Street	202
Charles Churchill Ltd.	Blaydon-on-Tyne	87
Chemidos Wavin Ltd.	Meadowfield (Durham)	32
Commercial Plastics Ltd.	Cramlington	42
Computer Leasings Ltd.	Wallsend	65
Cummins Engine Co. Ltd.	Darlington	90
Derek Crouch (Contractors) Ltd.	Widdrington	242
Durham Chemicals	Chester-le-Street	43
Eaton Axles Ltd.	Darlington	54
The Ever Ready Co. (Gt. Britain) Ltd.	Newcastle upon Tyne	113
Exquisite Knitwear Ltd.	Cramlington	35
Forward Leasing (UK) Ltd.	Consett	38
George Angus and Co. Ltd.	Wallsend	32
Geo. Wimpey and Co. Ltd.	Workington	49
Grundfos Manufacturing Ltd.	Washington	31
Harker and Sons (Engineers) Ltd.	Stockton-on-Tees	30
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Billingham	1,621
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Middlesbrough	2,802
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Port Clarence (Middlesbrough)	38
James A. Jobling and Co. Ltd.	Sunderland	73
Kimberly-Clark Ltd.	Prudhoe	35
Merck Sharp and Dohme Ltd.	Cramlington	138
Milk Marketing Board	Carlisle	187
Monsanto Ltd.	Middlesbrough	245
Mullard Ltd.	Durham	31
National Coal Board	South Shields	45
National Smokeless Fuels Ltd.	Blaydon-on-Tyne	25
Norsea Pipeline Ltd.	Billingham	961
NSK Bearings Europe Ltd.	Peterlee	45
Polyamide Intermediates Ltd.	Middlesbrough	132
Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers Ltd.	Sunderland	97
Railway Finance Ltd.	Shildon (Co. Durham)	56
Richard Hill Ltd.	Middlesbrough	27
Rohm and Hass (UK) Ltd.	Middlesbrough	51
Royal Ordnance Factory	Birtley	52
Shell (UK) Ltd.	Middlesbrough	532
Smart and Brown (Engineers) Ltd.	Spennymoor	27
Smart and Brown Lighting Ltd.	Stanley (Co. Durham)	33
Smith's Dock Co. Ltd.	Middlesbrough	29
Steetley (MFG) Ltd.	Ferryhill (Co. Durham)	33
Sterling Organics Ltd.	Cramlington	66
Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd.	Sunderland	307
Teesside Textiles Ltd.	Stockton-on-Tees	70
Thomas De La Rue and Co. Ltd.	Gateshead	48

Name of company	Place of premises	Grant (£ 000)
Thomas Mouget and Co. Ltd.	Redcar	80
Thomson, T. J. and Son Ltd.	Stockton-on-Tees	42
Thorn Heating Holdings Ltd.	Gateshead	48
Triphos (Northern) Ltd	Hartlepool	59
United Biscuits Ltd.	Billingham	27
Vaux Breweries Ltd.	Sunderland	76
Vetro Resin Engineering Ltd.	Peterlee	30
Vickers Ltd.	Newcastle upon Tyne	33
Welwyn Electric Ltd.	Bedlington	69
Whessoe Ltd.	Middlesbrough	50
WALES		
Aberthaw and Bristol Channel	Barry	53
ADG Fibres (UK) Ltd.	Caernarvon	42
Alcoa Manufacturing (GB) Ltd.	Swansea	995
The Aluminium Wire and Cable Co. Ltd.	Swansea	31
Barnet Instruments Ltd.	Wrexham	29
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Cardiff	237
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Llanelli	28
British Steel Corporation	Ebbw Vale	244
British Steel Corporation	Port Talbot	890
British Steel Corporation	Shotton	241
Dow Corning Ltd.	Barry	55
Duport Steel Works Ltd.	Llanelli	41
Fane Films Ltd.	Rhymney	31
Ford Motor Co. Ltd.	Pontypridd	68
Ford Motor Co. Ltd.	Swansea	68
Francis Industries Ltd.	Wrexham	25
Freeman, J. R. and Son Ltd.	Port Talbot	36
GEC (Radio and Television) Ltd.	Aberdare	100
Hymac Ltd.	Rhymney	39
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Pontypool	243
International Nickel Ltd.	Swansea	64
Johnson and Johnson Ltd.	Blackwood	52
National Coal Board	Blackwood	57
National Coal Board	Hirwaun	54
Parke Davis and Co.	Pontypool	51
Shell (UK) Ltd.	Amlwch	567
Silent Channel Products Ltd.	Maesteg	30
S. and L. T. Developments Ltd.	Newport	26
Texaco Ltd.	Pembroke	28
Unigate Foods Ltd.	Carmarthen	25
Wm. Adams and Co (Newport) Ltd.	Newport	32
SCOTLAND		
Ailsa Shipbuilding Co. Ltd.	Troon	102
AMP of Great Britain Ltd.	Port Glasgow	37
Bakelite Xylonite Ltd.	Grangemouth	58
Barclays Export and Finance Co. Ltd.	Grangemouth	479
Bass Ltd.	Glasgow	241
Beecham Pharmaceuticals UK Division	Irvine	60
Birds (Scotland) Ltd.	Bellshill	68
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Bathgate	51
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Glasgow	137
British Steel Corporation	Bellshill	128
British Steel Corporation	Cambuslang	91
British Steel Corporation	Motherwell (Dalzell)	43
British Steel Corporation	Motherwell (Ravenscraig)	49
Brown and Root Wimpey Ltd.	Tain	71
Burntisland Engineers and Fabricators Ltd.	Burntisland	25
Busby Spinning Co. Ltd.	Kilwinning	28
Byard Kenwest Engineering Ltd.	Livingston	32
Capital Leasing Ltd.	Dundee	59
Capital Leasing Ltd.	Glasgow	67
The Caterpillar Tractor Co. Ltd.	Tannochside	124
Cessna Fluid Power Ltd.	Glenrothes	47
Chivas Brothers Ltd.	Beith	289
Clydesdale Excavating and Construction Ltd.	Motherwell	44
Consolidated Pneumatic Tool Co. Ltd.	Aberdeen	33
Corrugated Products Ltd.	Lockerbie	69
Cummins Engine Co. Ltd.	Shotts	115
Davidson Radcliffe Ltd.	Bucksburn	70
Devro Ltd.	Glasgow	369
The Distillers Co. (Bottling Services) Ltd.	Leven	31
Ethicon Ltd.	Livingston	35
Exacta Circuits Ltd.	Selkirk	27
Express Dairy Foods Ltd.	Lockerbie	215
Fenner, J. H. and Co. Ltd.	Cumnock	84
Filtrona Textile Products Ltd.	Dundee	40
FMC Corporation (UK) Ltd.	Dunfermline	26
Forward Leasing (UK) Ltd.	Clydebank	43
Forward Leasing (UK) Ltd.	Irvine	54
Foster Wheeler, John Brown Boilers Ltd.	Dumbarton	28
Fyffes Group Ltd.	Newbridge	29
George Ballantine and Son Ltd.	Elgin	129
George Macwilliam and Son (Contractors) Ltd.	Inverness	40
General Instrument Microelectronics Ltd.	Glenrothes	28
General Motors Scotland Ltd.	Motherwell	33
Giddings and Lewis-Fraser Ltd.	Arbroath	34
Glacier Metal Co. Ltd.	Kilmarnock	31
Govan Shipbuilders Ltd.	Glasgow	355
Henry Ballantyne and Sons Ltd.	Walkerburn	33
Hiram Walker and Sons (Scotland) Ltd.	Beith	153
IBM UK Ltd.	Greenock	28
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Grangemouth	35
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Stevenston	247
Imperial Group Ltd.	Stevenston	393
The Inveresk Paper Company	Denny	64
Inver House Distillers Ltd.	Airdrie	66
Lewis Offshore Ltd.	Stornoway	106
Long John International Ltd.	Glasgow	220
Lyle Barclay Ltd.	East Kilbride	100
Macallan-Glenlivet Ltd.	Craigellachie	26
McDermott Scotland Ltd	Ardersier	222
Model Toys Ltd.	Shotts	42
Morganite Electroheat Ltd.	Perth	41
Morrison-Whyte (UK) Ltd.	Maybole	34
Redpath Dorman Long (North Sea) Ltd.	Methil	102
Robert Hutchinson and Co. Ltd.	Kirkcaldy	47
Robin A. Rippin	Auchtermuchty	26
Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd.	Glasgow	191
Scotstoun Marine Ltd.	Glasgow	564
Scottish Cables Ltd.	Renfrew	39
Scottish Grain Distillers Ltd.	Glasgow	50
Scottish Grain Distillers Ltd.	Menstrie	295
Scottish Malt Distillers Ltd.	Elgin	37
Scottish Malt Distillers Ltd.	Isle of Islay	42
Scottish Meat Producers Ltd.	Bathgate	26
The Scottish Milk Marketing Board	Stanraer	38
Scottish and Newcastle Breweries Ltd.	Edinburgh	43
Scottish Timber Products Ltd.	Stirling	73
Scotts Shipbuilding Co. Ltd.	Greenock	65
The Singer Co. (UK) Ltd.	Glasgow	30
Slater Rodger and Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	27
Tennent, R. B. Ltd.	Coatbridge	41
Timex Corporation	Dundee	34
Trocoll Industries (Scotland) Ltd.	Irvine	29
Tullis Russell and Co. Ltd.	Glenrothes	363
U. G. Glass Containers Ltd.	Alloa	418
Wiggins Teape Ltd.	Aberdeen	69
Wiggins Teape Ltd.	Fort William	30
William Collins Sons and Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	229
William Grant and Sons Ltd.	Keith	32
Wm Hay and Sons (Aberdeen) Ltd.	Aberdeen	26
William Hollins and Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	36
William Thyne Ltd.	Edinburgh	31

Grants given in respect of plant provided for use in a development area

Name of company	Address of company	Grant (£ 000)
Abelson Plant Ltd.	Coventry	44
Geo. Wimpey and Co. Ltd.	London	60
Gleeson, M. J. (Contractors) Ltd.	North Cheam (Surrey)	54
John Laing Construction Ltd.	Borehamwood	35
M. and M. Sales (Plant Hire) Ltd.	Stanhope	62
National Coal Board	Edinburgh	488
National Coal Board	Stoke-on-Trent	31
Raynesway Plant Ltd.	Derby	38
Rigging International Europe Ltd.	Middlesbrough	66
Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons Ltd.	London	124
St. Margaret's Leasing Ltd.	Cheltenham	29
Seymour Plant (Northern) Ltd.	Carlisle	57
Tysons (Contractors) Ltd.	Liverpool	26

Total of payments listed above £39.1 million.

Total Regional Development Grant paid in the quarter £65.9 million.

Have you a good industrial news picture?

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story. Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Footwear industry: orders, deliveries and stocks

In the three months ended October 1975 deliveries were estimated to be 9 per cent higher, on a seasonally adjusted pairage basis, than in the three months ended July 1975. Net new orders were 28 per cent higher than in the previous three months, while at the end of October orders on hand were 23 per cent up on the July 1975 level. The index of output in the three months ended October 1975 was 5 per cent higher than in the three months ended July 1975.

A detailed breakdown of manufacturers' deliveries by type of footwear in pairage and value terms, together with figures of exports, imports, consumers' expenditure, prices and employment is published in the Business Monitor Production series under the reference PQ 450.

The table below is compiled from the results of the monthly and quarterly inquiries which started at the beginning of 1971 and the KS inquiry which they superseded. Linkage factors spanning the fourth quarter 1970 and the first quarter 1971 have been calculated from matching samples of firms contributing to both the old and new inquiries and the KS results adjusted to provide a single, broadly comparable series. Since the linking factors cover only two quarters, however, the amended back data for 1966-70 should be interpreted with caution.

The index of output is calculated from the value of total sales and work done by firms classified to the footwear industry (Minimum List Heading 450 of the standard industrial classification). In using the index numbers it should be borne in mind that when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant price value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months.

The data on pairage and value relate to complete footwear only sold by manufacturers classified to MLH 450 and to other industries (eg rubber) in the SIC.

Index of output: Orders on hand, net new orders, deliveries and stocks of complete footwear

Monthly averages or monthly totals

	Index of output 1970 = 100	Orders on hand (end period)			Net new orders			Deliveries			Stocks (end period)
		Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs
1966		33.6			..			16.4			
1967		37.8			16.5			16.1			
1968	113	41.6			17.3			17.0			
1969	108	34.6			15.9			16.5			
1970	100	38.9			16.6			16.2			
1971	108	32.5		55.7	15.7			16.2		23.8	19.4
1972	104	29.5		59.6	15.2		24.8	15.4		24.5	18.5
1973	108	46.2		85.2	17.1		30.5	15.7		28.4	16.5
1974	107	44.3		79.5	14.3		30.9	14.4		31.3	18.0
	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual
1974 1st quarter	101	51.1	53.3	87.5	15.2	14.1	29.7	13.6	13.4	28.9	13.6
2nd quarter	112	51.9	50.3	95.1	14.7	14.4	32.6	14.4	15.5	30.0	19.4
3rd quarter	110	40.1	49.1	73.7	11.0	14.1	26.8	14.9	14.5	33.9	16.4
4th quarter	105	44.3	50.0	79.5	16.2	14.8	34.6	14.8	14.5	32.7	18.0
1975 1st quarter	106	34.4	37.4	61.7	10.8	10.1	30.2	14.1	14.3	36.2	18.3
2nd quarter	96	36.6	36.5	78.4	13.1	12.8	36.1	12.4	13.1	30.5	23.1
3rd quarter p	109	30.8	42.8	67.0	13.8	17.3	35.0	15.8	15.2	38.8	17.4
1974 January	96	45.5	49.8	85.0	11.5	11.2	25.2	12.2	12.5	25.4	
February	96	49.7	53.1	86.6	17.0	16.3	28.8	12.8	13.0	27.2	
March	110	51.1	53.3	87.5	17.2	15.0	35.1	15.8	14.8	34.1	
April	112	55.2	54.0	92.4	19.6	16.4	36.5	15.5	15.7	31.6	
May	110	55.9	52.0	101.3	15.3	13.3	38.9	14.6	15.3	30.1	
June	114	51.9	50.3	95.1	9.3	13.7	22.3	13.2	15.4	28.5	
July	115	45.9	48.6	82.1	9.1	13.2	21.6	15.1	14.9	34.7	
August	109	41.4	47.4	74.9	9.6	13.6	24.3	14.1	14.7	31.4	
September	107	40.1	49.1	73.7	14.1	15.4	34.4	15.4	13.8	35.6	
October	103	39.3	47.8	77.8	16.4	12.6	41.9	17.2	14.0	37.9	
November	106	47.1	52.1	88.9	23.5	19.3	45.0	15.8	15.0	33.9	
December	105	44.3	50.0	79.5	8.7	12.4	16.8	11.5	14.5	26.3	
1975 January	112	37 2	42.2	69.9	6.9	6.6	26.4	14.0	14.4	36.0	
February	108	32.1	36.3	61.7	9.3	8.8	28.8	14.4	14.7	37.1	
March	100	34.4	37.4	61.7	16.3	14.9	35.4	14.0	13.8	35.4	
April	90	35.8	36.1	71.6	14.2	11.1	41.2	12.8	12.4	31.3	
May	92	39.1	36.6	83.7	14.8	13.1	39.9	11.5	12.6	27.8	
June	105	36.6	36.5	78.4	10.3	14.2	27.1	12.8	14.2	32.3	
July p	111	31.6	36.1	65.8	10.2	14.5	26.5	15.2	15.0	39.2	
August p	103	30.7	39.7	64.6	12.9	18.7	31.4	13.8	15.1	32.6	
September p	113	30.8	42.8	67.0	18.3	18.6	47.0	18.3	15.6	44.7	
October p	108	34.3	44.3	80.9	21.7	16.4	58.0	18.1	14.8	44.1	

p = Provisional

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Hosiery and other knitted goods – index of production

In the three months ended November 1975 the volume of production of hosiery and other knitted goods, seasonally adjusted (including knitted fabrics), was provisionally estimated to have been 11 per cent less than in the three months ended November 1974.

The seasonally adjusted figures for 1975 are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1974 and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1975 have been incorporated. The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months, but not for other seasonal variations.

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months.

Hosiery and other knitted goods

1970 = 100

1968	88
1969	98
1970	100
1971	99
1972	100
1973	103
1974	100

	Including warp knitting	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1974 1st quarter	91	97
2nd quarter	103	105
3rd quarter	97	101
4th quarter	108	96
1975 1st quarter	87	93
2nd quarter p	95	96
3rd quarter p	87	90
1974 April	95	102
May	99	101
June	116	112
July	88	100
August	91	102
September	113	102
October	120	101
November	124	104
December	79	83
1975 January	78	92
February	93	98
March	90	89
April p	89	95
May p	92	93
June p	103	100
July p	78	88
August p	81	91
September p	101	91
October p	109	91
November p	109	91

p = provisional.

Export pictures

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story, with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news. Send your news and photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Sales by wholesale textile houses

Sales by wholesale textile houses in November showed a decrease of 3 per cent on a year earlier, compared with an increase of 1 per cent in September and a decrease of 6 per cent in October.

The value of stocks at the end of November showed an increase of 4 per cent compared with the same period last year.

TABLE 1 Total sales and stocks

Index numbers and *percentage increase compared with a year earlier* 1950 = 100

	Value of home sales		Value of stocks end period	
1966	110	*–3*	..	..
1967	104	*–5*	..	..
1968	108	*4*	..	..
1969	103	*–5*	..	..
1970	107	*4*	..	..
1971	115	*8*	..	..
1972	121	*5*	..	..
1973	134	*11*	..	..
1974	147	*9*	..	..
1973 1st quarter	120	*18*	184	*12*
2nd quarter	123	*11*	171	*17*
3rd quarter	130	*6*	173	*12*
4th quarter	163	*10*	204	*21*
1974 1st quarter	134	*12*	189	*3*
2nd quarter	131	*7*	202	*18*
3rd quarter	148	*13*	194	*12*
4th quarter	173	*6*	198	*–3*
1975 1st quarter	143	*7*	219	*16*
2nd quarter	135	*3*	197	*–2*
3rd quarter	146	*–1*	193	*–1*
1974 November	156	*1*	222	*10*
December	158	*5*	198	*–3*
1975 January	99	*18*	205	*15*
February	155	*15*	213	*16*
March	176	*–3*	219	*16*
April	149	*7*	195	*8*
May	128	*4*	213	*3*
June	130	*–2*	197	*–2*
July	125	*7*	210	*2*
August	126	*–11*	206	—
September	186	*1*	193	*–1*
October	193	*–6*	197	*+3*
November	150	*–3*	231	*+4*

TABLE 2 Analysis by department

Percentage increase compared with a year earlier

	Sales		Stocks‡
	Nov. 1975	Jan.-Nov. 1975	Nov. 1975
Women's knitted outerwear, blouses and skirts	17	6	–7
Women's coats, costumes, furs and raincoats	13	25	46
Women's underwear	–17	—	6
Women's hose and children's socks	–10	–15	–15
Women's millinery	–6	6	3
Haberdashery, ribbons and wool	3	2	32
Children's wear	5	–7	–16
Men's and boys' shirts, pyjamas and outfitting	–29	–14	–12
Gloves	7	–11	53
Piece-goods and nets	21	—	14
Household textiles	–10	2	20
Floor coverings, furniture and hardware	–2	5	11
Boots and shoes	5	–1	–10
Total†	–3	1	4

† Including some items not included among the sub-headings.
‡ Values at cost.

Note

These statistics are prepared by Textile Distributors' Association. Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, the Textile Distributors' Association, 3 Berners Street, London W1P 4JP (tel. 01-580 2902).

Output in the wool textile industry

The volume of production in the wool textile industry (as measured by the seasonally adjusted index of production) in November 1975 was 6 per cent lower than in November 1974. Statistics issued by the Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics show that in the period January-November 1975 woven fabrics (excluding blankets) were 13 per cent lower than in the same period of 1974; deliveries of worsted yarns (excluding semi-worsted yarn) were 14 per cent lower. Production of wool and hair tops was 4 per cent more and that of man-made fibre tops was 18 per cent less.

Output in the wool textile industry

	Consumption	Production			Deliveries			
	Raw wool (clean weight)	Tops		Woollen yarn (†)	Worsted yarn (§)	Woven fabrics (excluding blankets) (‡)		Blankets (†)
		Wool and hair	Man-made fibres			Woollen	Worsted	
	million kilos					million sq. metres		
1968	177.5	96.6	36.4	147.4	98.2	135.8	110.6	27.3
1969	174.5	92.0	42.2	142.2	100.5	130.1	109.2	26.9
1970	153.1	79.7	44.6	129.4	97.6	115.5	99.8	24.6
1971	141.2	66.2	36.6	130.7	93.0	101.9	83.9	28.5
1972	152.3	75.1	45.9	130.9	101.6	99.8	83.7	28.8
1973	136.6	62.2	55.9	135.2	100.0	104.0	88.4	30.6
1974	112.6	43.9	54.8	122.5	87.2	92.1	82.6	28.1
1973 1st quarter	40.7	19.9	13.3	36.8	27.8	25.8	24.5	8.6
2nd quarter	34.9	16.6	13.9	33.4	24.6	27.2	21.7	7.3
3rd quarter	29.2	13.0	13.0	29.8	21.8	24.1	19.9	6.7
4th quarter	31.8	12.9	15.6	35.2	25.7	27.2	22.2	8.1
1974 1st quarter	28.4	11.9	13.3	29.5	21.5	22.7	20.9	7.8
2nd quarter	33.6	12.8	15.5	36.7	23.5	25.8	21.2	7.2
3rd quarter	25.9	10.0	14.0	28.0	20.6	23.0	19.4	6.4
4th quarter	24.7	9.1	12.0	28.5	21.6	20.6	21.2	6.8
1975 1st quarter	27.3	11.2	12.8	29.4	20.4	17.7	20.7	7.6
2nd quarter	29.1	11.9	12.7	29.7	19.4	22.5	19.2	5.0
3rd quarter	25.5	11.4	9.2	24.6	15.7	19.8	17.1	5.7
1974 January	8.7	3.6	3.8	9.2	6.8	7.4	6.7	2.3
February	8.6	3.6	4.0	8.8	6.9	7.0	6.6	2.9
March	11.1	4.7	5.5	11.5	7.8	8.3	7.6	2.6
April	11.0	4.4	5.9	12.0	8.1	8.3	7.0	2.4
May	10.9	4.2	4.8	12.1	7.6	9.0	7.1	2.5
June	11.7	4.2	4.8	12.6	7.8	8.5	7.1	2.3
July	9.2	4.0	6.1	9.3	7.4	7.6	7.0	1.6
August	7.7	2.5	3.7	9.0	6.4	7.5	5.7	2.3
September	9.0	3.6	4.2	9.7	6.8	7.9	6.8	2.6
October	8.6	3.3	4.9	10.1	8.4	8.2	7.9	2.5
November	8.4	3.0	3.8	9.6	7.2	7.2	6.7	2.5
December	7.7	2.8	3.4	8.8	6.0	5.3	6.4	1.8
1975 January	8.9	3.6	4.3	9.9	7.0	6.1	7.3	2.3
February	9.1	3.8	4.2	9.5	6.4	5.6	6.6	2.9
March	9.3	3.9	4.4	10.1	7.0	6.1	6.8	2.5
April	9.6	4.1	4.5	9.8	6.9	7.0	6.5	1.8
May	9.3	3.5	3.7	9.9	6.0	7.2	6.3	1.7
June	10.2	4.3	4.5	10.0	6.4	8.2	6.4	1.6
July	9.0	4.5	3.8	8.0	5.1	6.7	6.4	1.9
August	7.0	2.7	2.2	7.5	4.7	5.9	4.5	1.7
September	9.5	4.2	3.2	9.1	5.9	7.2	6.2	2.1
October		4.0	3.6	9.9	7.2	6.6	6.4	2.1
November		4.3	3.6	9.2	6.5	5.4	5.7	1.9

(†) Estimated. (‡) Woven woollen fabrics include fabrics which are mainly woollen by weight of components and, similarly, woven worsted fabrics include fabrics which are mainly worsted by weight of components. (§) From January 1969 includes semi-worsted yarn: previously yarn of this type was not separately distinguished and the small quantities involved were divided between the woollen and worsted yarn headings. In November deliveries of semi-worsted yarn were 0.7 million kilos.

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Production in the cotton industry

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in the period January-November 1975 the amount of cloth woven was 1 per cent less than in the same period last year. Production of single yarn decreased by 11 per cent and doubled yarn decreased by 9 per cent.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn (†)		Doubled yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn (‡)	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg.				million metres	
1968	171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969	166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970	158.7	77.4	43.2	57.3	627.6	484.3
1971	133.0	83.3	85.0		559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7	75.4		513.0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5	82.1		453.2	502.3
1974	101.3	87.7	74.7		409.5	505.3
1974 January*	1.6	1.4	1.1		6.6	6.8
February	1.7	1.5	1.2		7.1	7.9
March	2.2	2.0	1.6		8.6	10.6
April	2.0	1.9	1.6		8.0	10.5
May*	2.3	2.1	1.7		8.6	10.7
June	2.0	1.9	1.5		9.0	11.2
July*	1.7	1.4	1.3		5.4	7.8
August	2.2	2.0	1.6		8.6	10.8
September	1.8	1.5	1.3		6.8	9.9
October*	2.2	1.7	1.6		9.0	11.4
November	2.2	1.7	1.6		9.5	11.1
December	1.6	1.3	1.2		7.7	8.6
1975 January*	1.8	1.5	1.4		8.2	9.7
February	1.9	1.6	1.5		8.8	10.7
March	1.7	1.3	1.3		8.3	9.7
April*	1.8	1.6	1.2		7.7	9.4
May	2.1	1.7	1.5		8.1	10.0
June	1.7	1.6	1.3		8.7	10.1
July*	1.5	1.1	1.1		5.4	7.2
August	1.9	1.5	1.3		8.0	9.4
September	1.4	1.0	1.1		6.4	8.8
October*	2.1	1.6	1.4		8.5	10.9
November	2.1	1.6	1.4		8.7	10.9

(†) Spun in the cotton industry. (‡) Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. * Average of five weeks.

Sales in the carpet industry in November

The daily rate of manufacturers' sales by value in November 1975 at current prices was provisionally estimated to have been 28 per cent more than in November 1974, assuming 21 working days in November 1974 and 20 working days in November 1975. In the three months ended November 1975, the daily rate of manufacturers' sales was provisionally estimated to have been 18 per cent more than in the corresponding period 12 months ago, assuming 65 working days in both periods. The index numbers, which are of manufacturers' sales by value, have been adjusted for the length of the working month, but not for non-statutory holidays or other seasonal factors. The Wholesale Price Index of carpets is shown as a guide to the movement in prices.

1970 = 100

	Index of manufacturers' sales at current prices	Wholesale price index
1969	93	96.6
1970	100	100.0
1971	115	104.9
1972	135	111.7
1973	166	130.2
1974	179	153.1
1974 Quarter ended September	164	158.7
Quarter ended December	202	161.5
1975 Quarter ended March	190	169.5
Quarter ended June	194	171.2
Quarter ended September	180	180.2
1974 August	157	159.2
September	184	160.2
October	196	160.9
November	218	160.9
1975 August	176	179.6
September	198	181.7
October	232	189.0*
November	279	190.1*

* Provisional.

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Foreign trade statistics and other economic statistics from almost every country in the world are available for reference in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. A modern well-equipped library of over 85,000 volumes, it has a reading room for visitors and provides a document-copying service. There are trade directories covering 150 countries, and an expanding collection of trade catalogues of overseas manufacturers. The library opens from 9 to 5.30, Mondays to Fridays (Tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368 or Telex No. 886143).

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Release dates of economic statistics published in February

This notice is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in February. The dates are those which Departments, or other organisations concerned, are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet. Exceptionally, there may be a delay resulting from unavoidable statistical problems of collection and compilation. Further inquiries about individual series should be addressed to the source named.

Publication date	Series	Method of release*	Source
February			
3 Tues.	United Kingdom official reserves (Jan.)	PN	HM Treasury
	Capital issues and redemptions (during month of January)	PN	Bank of England
5 Thurs.	CBI Industrial Trends Survey (Jan.)	PN	CBI
	Provisional figures of vehicle production and estimates of new car registrations (Jan. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
6 Fri.	Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund (Jan.)	London Gazette	HM Treasury
9 Mon.	Hire purchase and other instalment credit business (Dec.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Retail trade (Dec. – final)	PN	Department of Industry
	Wholesale price index numbers (Jan.)	PN	Department of Industry
11 Wed.	London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-Jan.)	PN	CLCB
	UK Banks' eligible liabilities, reserve assets, reserve ratios and special deposits (mid-Jan.)	PN	Bank of England
12 Thurs.	Index of industrial production (Dec.)	PN	CSO
13 Fri.	Retail prices index (Jan.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Building Societies' receipts and loans (Jan.)	PN	BSA
	Crude steel production (Jan.)	PN	BSC/ BISPA
	Finished steel consumption and stock changes (4th qtr. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures incorporating the import and export unit value and volume index numbers and the terms of trade (Jan.)	PN	Department of Trade/ CSO
16 Mon.	Retail trade (Jan. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Turnover of the motoring trades (4th qtr.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Turnover of the catering trades (Dec.)	PN	Department of Industry
18 Wed.	Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours (Jan.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Monthly index of average earnings (Dec.)		
	Preliminary estimate of gross domestic product based on output data (4th qtr.)	PN	CSO
19 Thurs.	Car and commercial vehicle production (Jan. – final)	PN	Department of Industry
	Building Society house prices and mortgage advances (4th qtr.)	PN	Department of the Environment
	Consumers' expenditure (2nd preliminary estimate) (4th qtr.)	PN	CSO
20 Fri.	New vehicle registrations (Jan.)	PN	Department of the Environment
22 Sun.	National Savings monthly progress report (Jan.)	PN	National Savings Committee
23 Mon.	UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-Jan.)	PN	Bank of England
	London dollar and sterling certificates of deposit (mid-Jan.)	PN	Bank of England
24 Tues.	Unemployment (Feb. – prov.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Unfilled vacancies (Feb. – prov.)		
25 Wed.	Slum clearances (4th qtr. – final)	PN	Department of the Environment
	Housing starts and completions (Jan. – prov.)		
	House renovation grants approved (Jan. – prov.)		
26 Thurs.	Unemployment (Jan. – final)	Gazette	Department of Employment
	Employment in production industries (Dec.)		
	Overtime and short-time working in manufacturing industries (Dec.)		
	Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes (Jan.)		
	Capital expenditure by the manufacturing, distributive and service industries (4th qtr. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks (4th qtr. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Energy Trends	PN	Department of Energy
27 Fri.	Sales and orders in the engineering industries (Nov.)	Trade and Industry	Department of Industry
	Construction – new orders (Dec.)	PN	Department of the Environment
	Bricks and cement production (Jan.)	PN	Department of the Environment

* PN = Press Notice.

Business Monitor

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- PM 423 Foam backing, foam laminating and fabric to fabric bonding for November 1975
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- PQ 383 Aerospace products for third quarter 1975
- PQ 399.3 Safes, locks, latches, keys and springs for third quarter 1975
- PQ 429.2 Miscellaneous textiles industries for third quarter 1975
- PQ 484.2 Miscellaneous manufacture of paper and board for third quarter 1975

1972 Report on the Census of Production (price including postage):

Annual

- PA 109 Miscellaneous mining and quarrying (76½p)
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- PA 339.7 Food and drink processing machinery (76½p)
- PA 339.9 Miscellaneous (non-electrical) machinery and portable power tools (85p)
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- PA 349.2 Precision chains and other mechanical engineering (60½p)
- PA 367 Radio, radar and electronic capital goods (60½p)
- PA 422.1 Made-up household textiles (60½p)

Business Monitors have now been published for all 155 separate industry parts of the Report on the Census of Production for 1972.

Business Monitors in the Production series and Miscellaneous series, and certain Monitors (Nos. SD 1 to SD 9) in the Service and Distributive series, are normally available by annual subscription from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the Library at the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG (tel. 0633 56111, ext. 2973; telex 497121/497122 – Answer back BSO Newport), from which a complete list of the titles of Business Monitors is available on application. Back issues of the monthly and quarterly Monitors cost 30p a copy post free. The annual Monitors are individually priced, and the cost of these will be supplied on request. Exceptionally, copies can also be purchased over the counter at either the Department of Industry Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or the Department's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

The Annual Census of Production Reports (the PA series of Monitors), and the 1971 Census of Distribution Reports (which are being published as Monitors SD 10 to SD 23, though not all are yet available) can be obtained on standing order from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	28 Nov. 1975
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	23 Jan. 1976
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	17 Oct. 1975
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcies *see* Insolvencies	
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	9 Jan. 1976
Catering trades turnover (M)	16 Jan. 1976
Census of production (A)	19 Dec. 1974
(amendment)	16 Jan. 1975
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	2 Jan. 1976
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	21 Nov. 1975
insolvencies (Q)	31 Oct. 1975
liquidity (Q)	12 Dec. 1975
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	19 Dec. 1975
N. Ireland (M)	9 Jan. 1976
rate of return on capital	24 Oct. 1975
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1975
EEC economic indicators	9 Jan. 1976
Energy trends (M)	9 Jan. 1976
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	This week
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	16 Jan. 1976
cinema admissions and takings (M)	9 Jan. 1976
overseas payments and earnings (A)	8 Aug. 1975
registrations of films (A)	This week
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	10 Oct. 1975
household consumption (Q)	16 Jan. 1976
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	This week
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	16 Jan. 1976
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	9 Jan. 1976
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Hire-purchase business (M)	16 Jan. 1976
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	This week
N. Ireland index (M)	24 Oct. 1975
Wales	16 Jan. 1976
Insolvencies in England and Wales (Q)	31 Oct. 1975
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	22 Aug. 1975
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	9 Jan. 1976
investment and earnings overseas (A)	14 Mar. 1975
(amendment)	21 Mar. 1975
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	21 Nov. 1975
production (M)	12 Dec. 1975
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	21 Nov. 1975
Metal working machine tools: sales and orders (M)	19 Dec. 1975
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	This week
estimated figures (M)	16 Jan. 1976
motor trade turnover (Q)	21 Nov. 1975
Office development permits (Q)	21 Nov. 1975
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	11 Apr. 1975
analysis of trends (Q)	5 Dec. 1975
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	22 Aug. 1975
Regional development grants (Q)	This week
Regional selective assistance (M)	23 Jan. 1976
Retail prices index (M)	23 Jan. 1976
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	16 Jan. 1976
provisional figures (M)	23 Jan. 1976
sales, N. Ireland (M)	28 Nov. 1975
stocks (M)	23 Jan. 1976
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	11 Apr. 1975
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	23 Jan. 1975
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	2 Jan. 1976
Stocks:	
manufacturers' and distributors' quarterly figures (Q)	9 Jan. 1976
manufacturers' stocks: monthly estimates (M)	This week
retail (M)	28 Nov. 1975
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	8 Aug. 1975
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	16 Jan. 1976
carpet sales (M)	This week
cotton industry production (M)	This week
hosiery production (M)	This week
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	23 Jan. 1976
wholesale houses' sales (M)	This week
wool exports (Q)	28 Nov. 1975
wool output (M)	This week
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	This week
overseas travel and tourism (Q)	23 Jan. 1976
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	13 June 1975
index numbers (M)	23 Jan. 1976

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	3 Oct. 1975
Customs notices of interest to exporters	This week
ECGD local offices	This week
Guide to Departments	21 Nov. 1975
Official Receivers' offices	This week
Programme of trade promotions	16 Jan. 1976
Release dates of economic statistics	This week

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Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

10 February 1976 Miscellaneous stores

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Catalogues for the above sale which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to any day of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

Wembley Auction Sales 1975/76

3 February 1976

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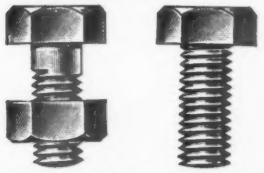

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London & South Eastern*: Mr R. Dean, OBE, St. Christopher House Annexe, Sumner Street, London, SE1 (Tel: 01-928 2371 – Telex 918881 message to be prefixed for London Region).

Southern: Mr A. S. Poole, Market Place House, Reading RG1 2EH (Tel: 581261 – Telex 848216).

South Western: Mr W. J. D. Irving, MVO, The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2NF (Tel: 291071 – Telex 44203).

Midland: Mr D. C. Boyd, Five Ways House, Islington Row, Birmingham B15 1SH (Tel: 021-643 8191 – Telex 33376).

North Western: Mr H. V. Tillotson, MVO, 22nd floor, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BD (Tel: 061-832 9111 – Telex 667830).

Scottish Office: Mr C. MacGregor, MBE, Scottish Information Office, New St. Andrew's House, St. James Centre, Edinburgh EH1 3TD (Tel: 031-556 8400).

Ulster Office: Northern Ireland Information Service, Stormont Castle, Belfast BT4 3ST (Tel: 63011).

Welsh Office: Mr Brian Evans, Director, Welsh Office Information Division, Oxford House, Hills Street, Cardiff CF1 2XG (Tel: 44171 – Telex 49327).

* National companies in central London, and particularly those with UK subsidiaries or branches, which require overseas publicity should consult Industrial Section at COI Headquarters: Mr. E. Turnbull, Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU (Tel: 01-938 2345 ext. 271 – Telex 915444).

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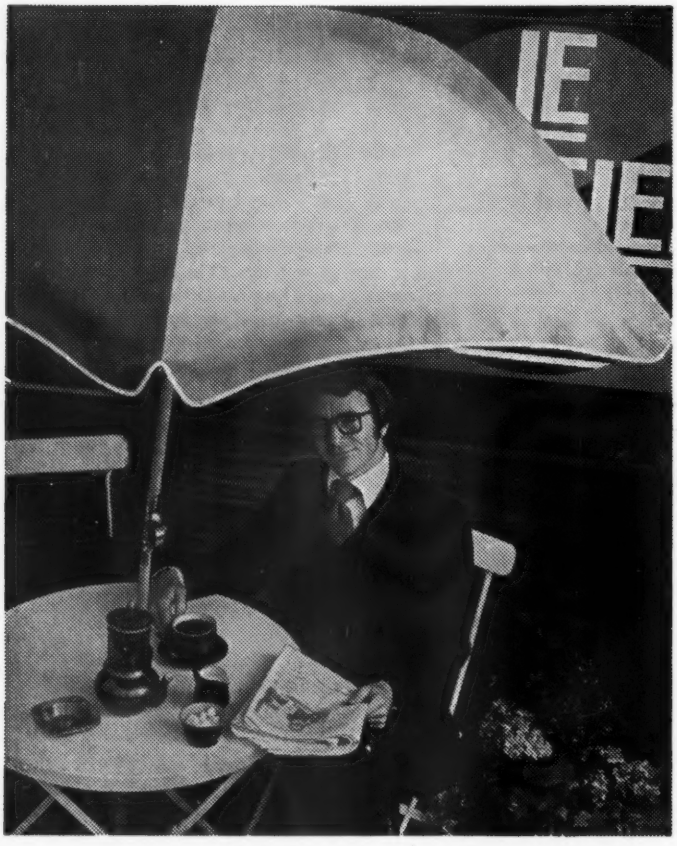

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